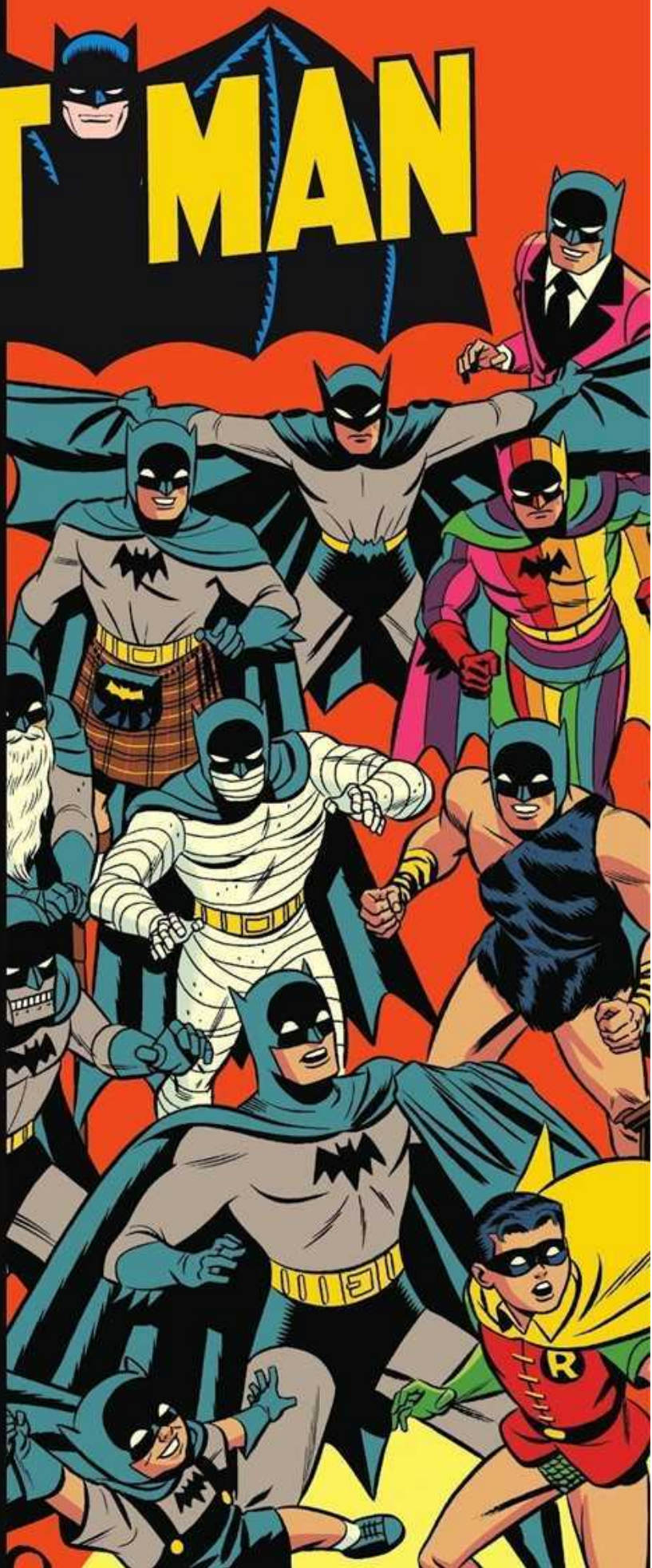
BATMAN in the Fifties

Classic Tales of the Caped Crusader!

BATMAN

in the Fifties



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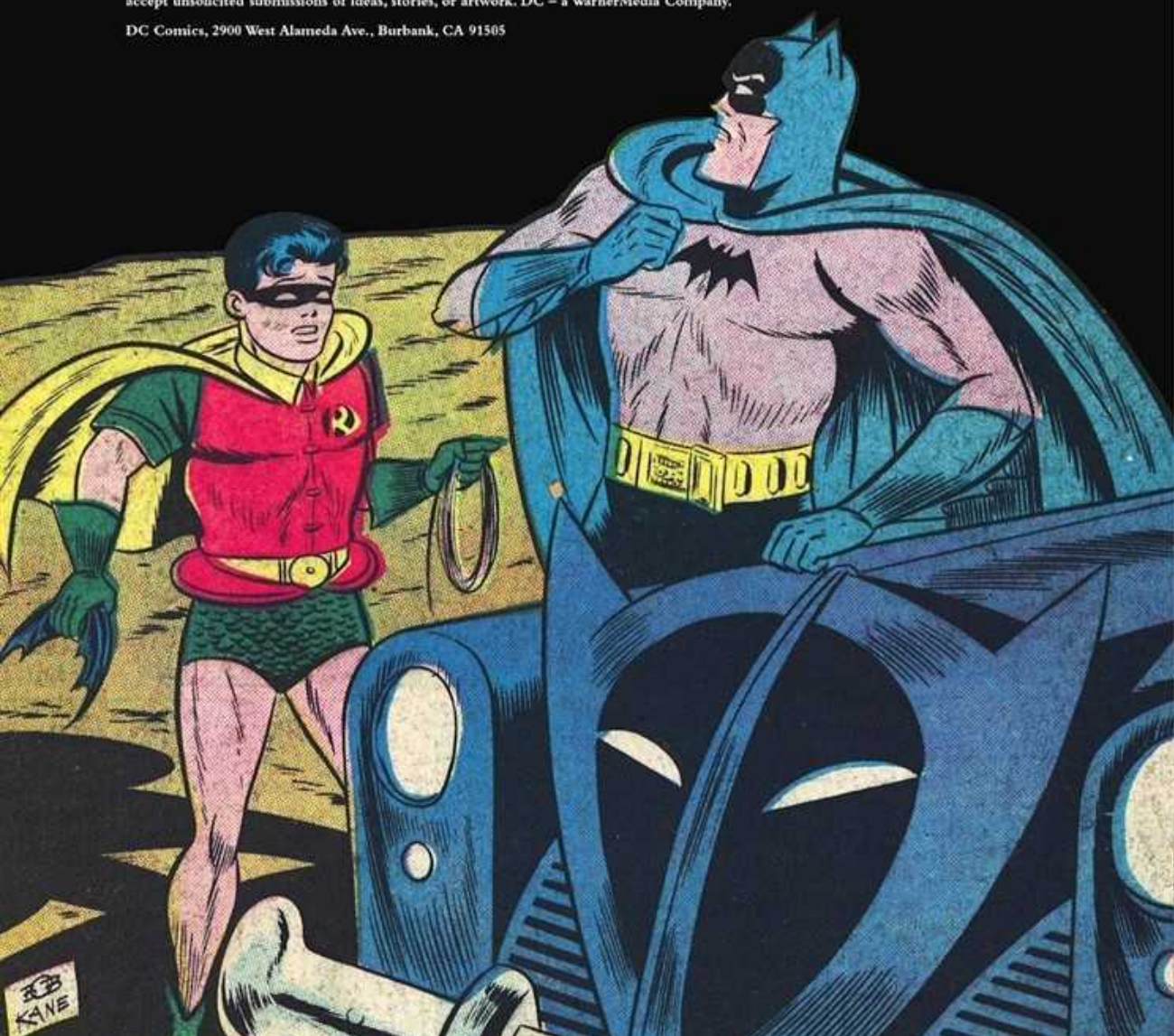

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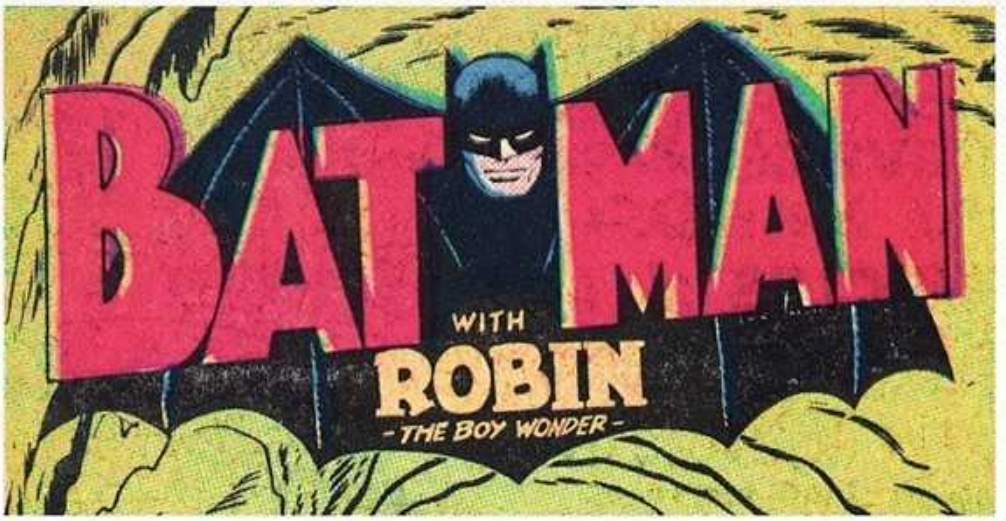


Introduction by Michael Uslan

"Criminals are a superstitious, cowardly lot, so my disguise must be able to strike terror into their hearts. I must be a creature of the night...black...terrible..."
— Bruce Wayne, 1939

Just imagine if Bruce Wayne had been sitting in his study in 1959 instead of 1939: "Criminals are a superstitious, cowardly lot, so my disguise must be able to strike terror into their hearts. I must be a creature…green…alien…gigantic…robotic…super-powered…"

Omigod!

Welcome to the wild, wacky, weird, wonderful world of Batman in the 1950s. If you're under 50 years old, this was not your Batman. This was a Batman who was a product of a vastly different time…a different generation…a different America. As "Give 'Em Hell" Harry Truman gave way to the bland years of "I Like Ike" Eisenhower (How's this for perspective? The joke of the decade was, "Have you heard about the Eisenhower doll? You wind it up and it doesn't do a thing for eight years."), the atom bomb and the hydrogen bomb had become realities. At home, kids watched their parents feverishly dig fallout shelters in their backyards to be used in the eventuality of a nuclear war. At school, the children were taught to "duck and cover" under their desks as soon as they saw "the big flash in the sky." This was a time for escapist fare. On TV, the little baby boomers could seek solace in the *Adventures of Superman*, *Rocky Jones, Space Ranger*, *Tom Corbett, Space Cadet*, *Flash Gordon*, *Captain Video*, *Captain Midnight*, and *Men into Space*, in addition to *Howdy Doody*, *Mighty Mouse*, and about a zillion Western heroes. The movies were catering to America's latest obsession with UFOs and alien encounters. Saturday afternoon at the movies often meant science fiction fare like *The Day the Earth Stood Still*, *Forbidden Planet*, *Invaders from Mars*, *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*, *Godzilla*, and *Rodan* (yes, there was Asian cinema before both anime and Jackie Chan). In the comic books, the Golden Age was clearly over with the demise of *All-Star Comics*' Justice Society of America in 1951. Superheroes were disappearing from America's newsstands faster than a speeding bullet. Comic books were increasingly coming under attack, being blamed almost exclusively for the post-World War II rise in juvenile delinquency. To answer its critics and to ward off federal intervention, the comic book industry formed its own self-censorship board in 1954, the Comics Code Authority, contributing to the reputation of 1950s comic book stories as "bland." DC Comics' own in-house Editorial Policy Code in the years leading up to the industry code was even more stringent…In fact, by today's standards, it was quite shocking. For example, here's what it stated about "sex" in DC comic books:

"The inclusion of females in stories is specifically discouraged. Women, when used in plot structure, should be secondary in importance, and should be drawn realistically, without exaggeration of feminine physical qualities."

Welcome to the fifties!

There were primarily four types of stories to be found in *Batman*, *Detective Comics*, and *World's Finest Comics* of the era: those that updated the legend of Batman for the futuristic fifties; those that expanded the membership of "the Batman Family" of characters; those that introduced new villains or brought back classic villains from the Batman rogues gallery; and those that took Batman into the realm of science fiction and monster fantasy.

Batman rocketed into the new decade with "The Batmobile of 1950!," a sleek, high-tech design that sprang from Sprang—artist Dick Sprang, that is. There is probably no icon more connected to the image of Batman than this version of the Batmobile. It heralded the giant fins of the Cadillac that would

follow nine years later. It was loaded with weapons like "oily smoke" that would inspire every aspect of James Bond's cars, beginning with his Aston Martin. It featured the 1950s version of Onstar half a century before Batman would be hawking it in television commercials. It had rocket power duplicated at that moment in history only by the rocket-sled testing grounds for future astronauts in the U.S. deserts. It would also be the primary influence for genius production designer Anton Furst, who reimagined the 1989 Batmobile for the first Batman feature, winning an Oscar for his creative efforts.

The story itself felt high-tech for the time by featuring a belt radio as well as a TV camera strapped to Robin that relayed pictures to a TV screen in the car. What you have to love about the comic book stories of the fifties, and their simplicity in catering to their key audience of seven-to-twelve-year-old boys, are moments like the one in which we learn that Batman was only pretending to be an invalid in order to test the new Batmobile. The car passed his test, needless to say. How quaint! How utterly bizarre!

In "The Secret of Batman's Utility Belt," an attempt was finally made to pinpoint what exactly was in those tubes encircling Batman's belt. For so long, it seemed that whatever our hero (or, actually, the scriptwriters) needed at any moment to get out of whatever trap or predicament Batman found himself in, he could reach into his belt and produce it. It made writing the stories a lot easier at a time when virtually no reader paid attention to continuity. In this story, we learn the utility belt contains a tiny microscope, a miniature camera, strange chemicals (whose ambiguity still left each writer an escape clause), a secret identity disc (don't even ask—remember: the fifties, simplicity . . .), smoke pellets, gas capsules, and a silken rope in the lining under the buckle. That should've clearly established the contents of the belt, yes? No. On pages 1 and 6, the belt has seven tubes. On pages 5 and 7, it has eight tubes. On page 2, it has 10 tubes. Back then, at best, readers accepted such incongruities as "boo-boos" (eventually leading to DC's "Great Boo-Boo Contest," but luckily, that is a story to be saved for another anthology book).

Bob Kane once told me of the biggest Batman boo-boo his team of ghost artists committed in the 1950s. It was in a story entitled "Fun-Mail of Danger" in June 1955's *Batman* #92. That tale eerily resonates today. Threatened with a possible bomb being mailed to Batman that could blow up the Batcave, the Caped Crusader installed a fluoroscope machine in the cave to screen all packages and suspicious-looking envelopes. The package in question was specified in Bill Finger's script to the artist, Shelly Moldoff, as containing "a huge stuffed bat" visible on the X-ray-type screen. As Robin notes in this infamous panel: "We already have enough stuffed bats to fill the Batcave!" Who would have imagined that instead of Shelly drawing a stuffed nocturnal animal known as a bat, he would draw without thinking a huge stuffed baseball bat? Who, in fact, would ever have thought a baseball bat could be stuffed at all—even by the world's greatest taxidermist?

"The 100 Batarangs of Batman" not only expanded Batman's arsenal but it juiced up the concept of the batarang for the fifties (and, as a sidebar, provided fodder for Green Arrow to copy in the form of trick arrows, as DC continued to prefer to portray him as a Batman knockoff). The story also showcases a 1957 interpretation of a computer as the Caped Crusader's "card-sorting machine crime file."

These tales were only part of the ongoing remolding of the Batman legend. Other critical stories of this period included: "The Birth of Batplane II" (*Batman* #61), "The 1,000 Inventions of Batman" (*Batman* #109), "The Origin of the Bat-Cave" (*Detective Comics* #205), "Untold Tales of the Bat-Signal" (*Detective Comics* #164), "The Thousand and One Trophies of Batman" (*Detective Comics* #158), "The First Batman" (*Detective Comics* #235), "Batman's First Case" (*Detective Comics* #265), and "The Strange Costumes of Batman" (*Detective Comics* #165).

The latter story would have a huge impact on Batman exactly 40 years later in 1990. Kenner Toys was hatching a massive business plan to follow up the success of its initial *Batman* movie toy line with dozens of new action figures that would feature Batman in costumes of different colors. But they had a big problem and called me in to Cincinnati for an emergency discussion. The brilliant toy man Jim Black showed me a gold Batman, then a silver one, a red one, a blue one, a green one, and a white one. I told him I thought it was a terrific idea. Then Jim explained that the problem was that Kenner had agreed only to portray Batman in ways as he was portrayed in the comic books or movies—and that meant he could only produce gray/blue or black costumed figures. He was stymied. I said, "No you're not," and directed him to the 1950s *Detective Comics* #165 story "The Strange Costumes of Batman," showing him that even in the comics, there have been many different colored costumes used by Batman. For good measure, I pointed him to 1957's *Detective Comics* #241, "The Rainbow Batman," and assured him I could even come up with a "Zebra Batman" if necessary. Dilemma solved, and the Batman toy line launched on. Kenner Toys loved those fifties Batman stories!

By the 1950s, both Batman and Superman were developing a strong group of supporting characters. Usually, Superman would take the first step. And so magazine news reporter and girlfriend Lois Lane begat Batman's inquisitive news photographer and girlfriend Vicki Vale. Krypto the Superdog begat Ace the Bat-Hound; and interdimensional imp Mr. Mxyzptlk begat interdimensional imp Bat-Mite. By the early sixties, Batman returned the favor to Superman as Bat-Ape begat Titano the Super-Ape.

Ace the Bat-Hound made his first of many 1950s appearances in 1955. Lassie, Rin Tin Tin, and even DC's own Rex the Wonder Dog were all going strong, so the Bat-Hound was a natural. This fairly typical story of the Ace features giant clowns (and you'll be seeing tons of oversize props in many of the stories that lie within this tome), a silly ending (as Batman comes up with a preposterous way to preserve his secret identity), plus a DC boo-boo on page 8 of this story. Pretend you're a comics reader in 1955! Can you spot the boo-boo? (Answer is at the end of this introduction. And don't cheat! People didn't cheat in the 1950s—except Richard Nixon, but that's another story.)

The Batwoman explodes onto the comic book scene in 1956, and what do you think is the very first response she elicits from a testosterone-filled bad guy? "Ha-ha! What can she do?" Oh, the ignominy! If you still don't comprehend that there was no comprehension of sexism in the fifties, here are four more chauvinistic reactions to her within this one story:

Crook: "There's only two of them. The girl doesn't count!"

Robin: "A girl saving you? It's ridiculous!"

Batman: "This is no place for a girl!"

Batwoman herself: "How could any woman ever equal the great Batman?"

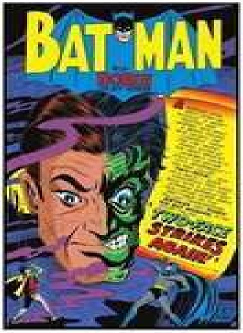
With a tip of her cowl to Harvey Comics' Black Cat, who preceded her by 15 years as a superheroine on a motorcycle, Batwoman had her own unique cache of weapons. But what sort of arsenal did DC's male writer provide for Batwoman? She was armed with powder puffs, charm bracelets, perfume, a hairnet, a compact mirror, and a shoulder-bag utility case with matching hobo strap. Barbie would be proud!

The story has the usual 1950s-style silly ending as Batman solves the mystery based on his intricate knowledge of circus trapeze artist slang—one might think Robin would have been the one to figure out that clue, being as he was a circus trapeze artist before becoming Robin. But this was the fifties, and no "girl" superhero or kid sidekick was going to steal the climactic thunder from "the Man."

"The Second Boy Wonder!" story included in this volume is so pure 1950s that, if you analyze it carefully, you'll realize it's nothing more than an *I Love Lucy* plot ("Hey, Fred! Lucy and Ethel tried to fool us. Now let's you and I fool our gals!"). Substitute Robin for Lucy, Batman for Ricky, and Alfred for Fred, and you have the whole picture.

"Batman Meets Bat-Mite" features giant props galore in typical Bill Finger fashion. Finger was Batman's first writer and the man responsible for molding the legend from its inception to the 1960s. In this story, the reader is treated to humongous props from a "Hi-Fi Show" and a movie lot. As Bat-Mite pops into Gotham City and bedevils Batman with his awkward magic tricks, Batman's classic fifties response to his impish deviltry is, "Great Scott!" I always wondered who this "Scott" guy was and why he was so great. In the history of civilization, it seems this expression was only used by Batman, Superman (who sometimes alternated it with "Great guns!"), and Mr. Wilson, the neighbor of Dennis the Menace. Bat-Mite may not have fit alongside the character originally conceived by Bob Kane and Bill Finger as their "creature of the night," but for the kids of the fifties who were plunking down 10 cents an issue, month after month, the magical imp was always fun and entertaining—certainly more so than another new member of the Batman family, Aunt Agatha (*Batman* #89, 1955), who later would conceptually morph into Aunt Harriet, immortalized in the 1960s *Batman* TV series.

Batman's rogues gallery in the 1950s featured returns of some of the Caped Crusader's greatest villains—Catwoman, the Joker, and Two-Face. "The Secret Life of the Catwoman!" not only gave the world an origin of the villainess (which would be



perfect sense and that "if the Joker had been created originally in 1939, that's who would have murdered the Waynes in the comic book." As a tip of the hat to hardcore Bat-fans—and to Joe Chill—the scene in the movie showed Jack and another man responsible for the killing. It was hoped that would satisfy the majority of generations of Bat-maniacs.

But DC didn't just rest on its rogues gallery laurels in the fifties—new super-villains were created to expand the ranks of evildoers. Firefly, Mirror Man, Mad Hatter, Killer Moth, and the Terrible Trio all made their first appearances in this decade. It's certainly worth a footnote in comic book history to point out two other 1950s Batman villains who predated Marvel's Fantastic Four heroes by nine and eleven years, respectively: from *Detective Comics* #182, the Puppet Master, and from *Detective Comics* #336, Dr. Doom!

The one new villain who, perhaps, had the greatest long-term impact was born in "The Ice Crimes of Mr. Zero." Years later, when the Batman TV series would change his name to Mr. Freeze and bring him to life via George Sanders, Otto Preminger, and Eli Wallach, this bad guy would rise to the ranks of first-string super-villains. This story from the late fifties shows that anyone who wants to be a super-villain has to build a great hideout. Here, Mr. Zero, an average lab scientist, creates an amazing "hidden, refrigerated mountain lair." He was such a strong challenge to Batman and Robin that it was kind of sad to see that all it finally took for them to stop him was the equivalent of a steam bath.

No retrospective of Batman in the fifties would be complete without an examination of the editorial policy shift initiated by Whitney Ellsworth and carried to its apex by editor Jack Schiff placing Batman in science fiction and fantasy adventures. And the World's Greatest Detective wouldn't be the same again for years!

Batman sales were down and falling, and the previously unimaginable possibility of cancellation loomed ahead. That fact was to directly cause Batman to become a victim of the times. Sci-fi, UFOs, and monsters were hot in pop culture. Poor Batman was in for a hell of a makeover! While it's true he had already experienced adventures in time-travel as early as 1944 thanks to the hypnotic time machine of Professor Nichols, in the 1950s he would venture often through time to solve mysteries like the secret origin of the Batcave. In this volume, famed science fiction author Edmond Hamilton wrote "The True History of Superman and Batman" for *World's Finest Comics* #81 (1956). It featured a visit to 1956 by a historian from the year 3056. It was always an amazing coincidence in DC time-travel tales that people never failed to wind up exactly in the same year of any century that the comic book story was being published in. In "The Batman of Tomorrow," it's the Batman of 3053 who winds up in 1953. That particular story introduced quite a revolutionary concept used commonly in 3053 but never before experienced in 1953—"scientific massage." How innocent we were!

Other odd stories of the fifties violated all of the basic original concepts of Batman by inflicting super-powers on him, packing him off to another planet, and

reversion and contradicted in the years to come), but reinvented her as a newly reformed potential ally of Batman. The giant cash register is the first clue that Bill Finger's fingers were on the typewriter of this story. "Two-Face Strikes Again!" presents a good fifties tale that collapses under the weight of another preposterous fifties ending. In this case, Batman and Robin escape doom at the last possible second because: 1) they just happened to be wearing belt radios; 2) these just happened to be bound so that their hands could reach and fiddle with their belt radios; 3) they just happened to be able to use their hands to convert their belt radios into electromagnets in seconds; and 4) they just happened to land with the exact kind of impact they needed to escape. Taken literally, this was the kind of story that, translated into the 1960s TV series, would be hailed as "camp" entertainment.

"The Man Behind the Red Hood!" gave Bill Finger a chance to invent an origin for the Batman villain created by Jerry Robinson—the Joker. Here was a classic "Batman as a detective" story that fans have always loved. This origin pretty much stood until two popular versions of it presented alternatives: Alan Moore and Brian Bolland's 1988 graphic novel *Batman: The Killing Joke* (which made fans stop and wonder what the true story really was behind the birth of the Clown Prince of Crime) and 1989's *Batman* movie. After much discussion, it was agreed that for the movie the Red Hood story line would be too confusing, time-consuming, and unnecessary to include in the film. There was no compelling reason to add a third identity to the Joker. And so it was Jack Napier who took the plunge into the vat of chemicals, not the Red Hood. It also seemed to make sense to have the young Jack/Joker as the killer of Bruce Wayne's parents in the flashback. Worried about that change to the legend, I asked Bob Kane for his thoughts on the matter. Bob replied that it made

having him battle aliens, giants, robots, and invisible creatures. One story, "Batman—The Superman of Planet X!," combines all of the above! "The Creature from the Green Lagoon!," obviously inspired by the success of Universal's low-budget horror film, was actually more in the vein of King Kong. In "The Interplanetary Batman," not only does the Caped Crusader encounter robots and aliens, but just to be perfectly clear, the writer even specifies "...an alien from another planet." At least that means he doesn't have to register with the U.S. government in January. Luckily for Batman in this fifties adventure, he just happens to have acid in one of his utility-belt tubes—exactly what he needs to triumph!

This interpretation of Batman can best be summarized by simply listing titles of his stories at the time: "Prisoners of the Giant Robots," "Batman's Robot Twin," "The Batman Machine," "The Giant Batman," "The Alien Batman," "The Captive Planet," "The Creature from Planet X," "Menace of the Crystal Creatures," and "The Creature from 20,000 Fathoms." Interestingly, in *Batman* #78, our hero even meets Quork, "The Manhunter from Mars"—years before that appellation would be applied to a new character who, along with the new Flash, would usher DC Comics into the Silver Age.

Drawn by some of Bob Kane's most renowned ghost artists, Batman of the fifties and his giant props, super-villains, and giant alien robot monster genres defined the look and feel of 10 years in the life of a comic book legend. Led by the genius of Dick Sprang, Sheldon Moldoff (always identifiable by his odd drawings of hands), Win Mortimer, Curt Swan, Lew Sayre Schwartz, Stan Kaye, Charles Paris, and even Kane himself on occasion, each artist made a lasting impact. Batman, as always, was evolving with the times. Each decade would bring starkly different interpretations of the character, with each interpretation being valid for the audience of each particular era.

Conceptually, the Batman of the fifties would vanish almost overnight in 1964 when editor Julius Schwartz took over the reins of *Batman* and *Detective Comics*, envisioning a bold "new look" for new times. And new times they were. President Kennedy's assassination forced America's youth to grow up.

The Beatles had invaded America, and even rock 'n' roll was growing up. Clothes and hairstyles were changing fast. Civil rights marches, the new women's movement, the campaign for the 18-year-old vote, Vietnam War protests, the dawning idea of "ecology," and the drug-use boom were pushing us forward and, in some cases, tearing us apart. Stan Lee introduced a different, more grown-up approach to comic book superheroes and storytelling as *The Fantastic Four* and *The Amazing Spider-Man* exploded onto the newsstands. Batman would once again have to evolve to keep pace with the rapidly transforming times and audience. And as the sixties popped in, the times they were a-changin'.

—*Michael Uslan, 2001*

Michael Uslan has been an executive producer of the Batman movies; an executive producer of Warner Bros.' *Constantine* feature film (based on DC Comics' *Hellblazer*); an executive producer of the animated TV series *Where on Earth Is Carmen Sandiego?*, which won an Emmy Award for Best Animated Series; an executive producer of *Three Sovereigns for Sarah*, the PBS miniseries about the Salem witch trials; an executive producer and creator of the cartoon series *Dinosaucers*; instructor of the first accredited college course and correspondence course on comic books (1971); author of the books *Dick Clark's The First 25 Years of Rock & Roll* (Dell), *America at War: The Best of DC War Comics* (Simon & Schuster), *Mysteries in Space: The Best of DC Science Fiction Comics* (Simon & Schuster), *The Best of Archie* (Putnam), *The Pow! Zap! Wham! Comic Book Trivia Quiz* (William Morrow), *The Comic Book in America* (Indiana University), and *The Comic Book Revolution* (Indiana University); writer of the syndicated comic strip *Terry and the Pirates*; and, proudly, the initiator of the *Just Imagine Stan Lee Creating the DC Universe* series that brought Stan Lee to DC Comics.

(Answer to the boo-boo question: On page 8 of "Ace, the Bat-Hound!," Robin just tore Batman's symbol off his chest; the symbol shouldn't be on his chest again, except—it should be on his chest in the photograph in panel 6, but it's not! Double oops!)

Classic Tales

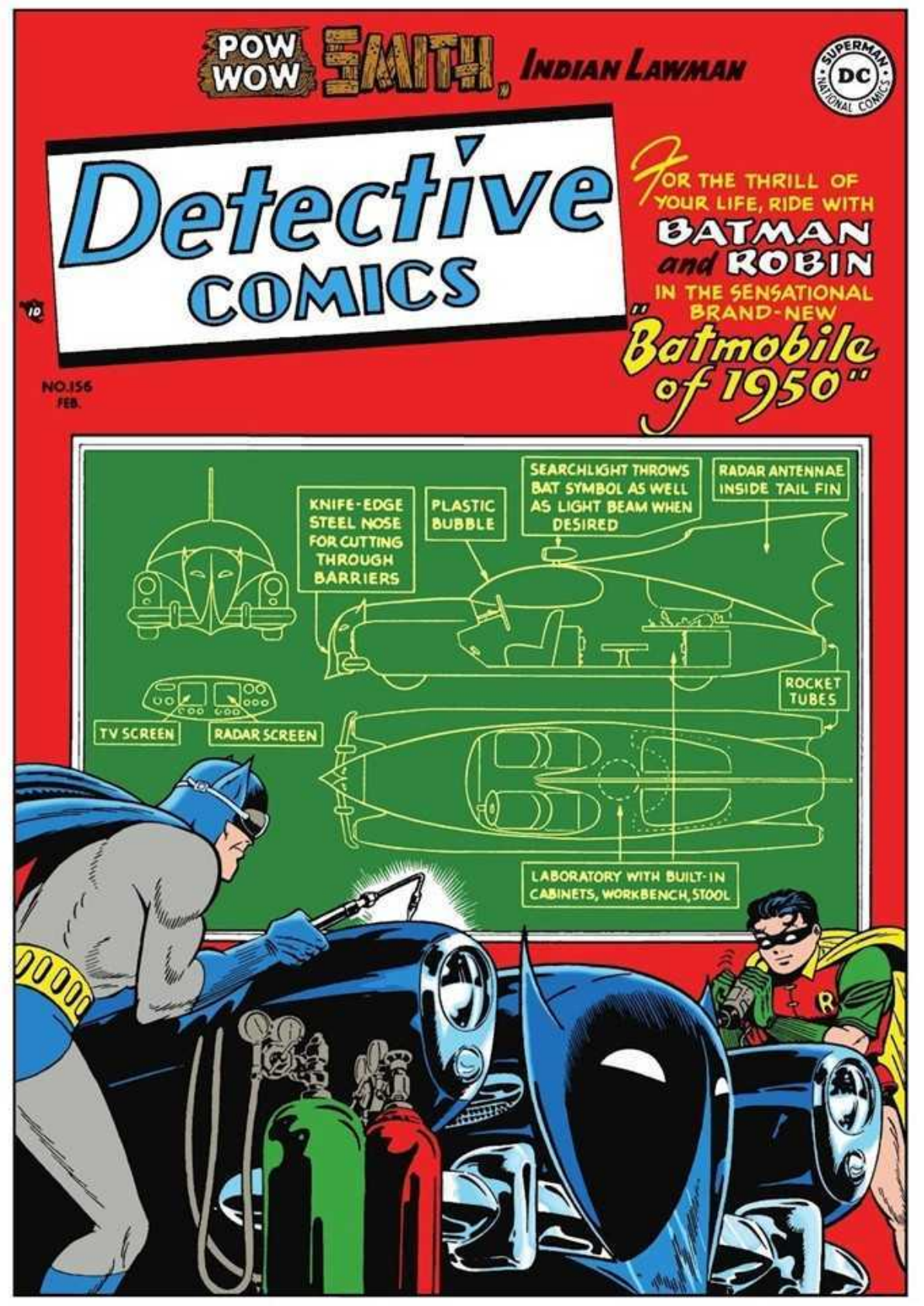
The decade of the 1950s was a fun time to be a Bat-fan, particularly for kids. Batman lightened up a bit from his early days as the Dark Knight. He underwent strange transformations, traveled through time, battled strange monsters and kooky aliens, and even tussled with a few old enemies. His second full decade as a hero was marked by more than one Bat-benchmark.

In "The Batmobile of 1950!" (*Detective Comics* #156), Batman finds himself laid up in a cast after crashing the familiar Batmobile he'd been driving since 1941. And so, a new and better Batmobile is built, with a stylish bat-headed grille. It would be our hero's vehicle of choice for years to come. Later in the decade, Batman would also redesign the Batplane (*Batman* #61) and create the Batmarine (*Batman* #86), the Bat-Copter (*Detective Comics* #254), and the personal helicopters known as the Whirly-Bats (*Detective Comics* #257).

It was, indeed, a good decade for Bat-gear. "The Secret of Batman's Utility Belt!" (*Detective Comics* #185) found one of the essential components of Batman's wardrobe passing from hand to hand among the citizenry of Gotham City before eventually undoing a dastardly group of gangsters. And "The 100 Batarangs of Batman" (*Detective Comics* #244) gave us our first glimpse at Batarang X, a weapon so amazing and dangerous that it had to be kept locked in its own secret room!

Probably the most memorable Batman stories of the 1950s involved the first issues of comicdom's all-time greatest team-up: Batman and Superman! Kids had been waiting for this one since Batman first burst onto the scene in 1939. Now, finally, the two greatest superheroes in the world would combine forces on a monthly basis to fight crime and thwart evil. Fans got a sneak preview in *Superman* #76 (May-June 1952). But two years later, they

would get a monthly treat like no other! *World's Finest Comics* had always paired Batman and Superman together on its covers. Unfortunately, kids would open those covers to find each hero isolated in his own story. Not until DC decided to shorten the book to 32 pages did the two finally get squeezed together into a single monthly adventure. And those adventures were among the best stories of the decade. In one memorable tale, "The True History of Superman and Batman" (*World's Finest Comics* #81), a historian from the future visits the present and tells our heroes that they have to undo all their great achievements because they weren't performed as the history books say they should have been. Then they must undergo the massive feat of re-accomplishing those tasks as history dictates. Even for DC's greatest heroes, this adventure seems nearly impossible—and that's what *World's Finest Comics* threw at our boys every month!


POW WOW SMITH, INDIAN LAWMAN
SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS
Detective COMICS
10
NO.156 FEB.
FOR THE THRILL OF YOUR LIFE, RIDE WITH BATMAN and ROBIN IN THE SENSATIONAL BRAND-NEW "Batmobile of 1950"
KNIFE-EDGE STEEL NOSE FOR CUTTING THROUGH BARRIERS
PLASTIC BUBBLE
SEARCHLIGHT THROWS BAT SYMBOL AS WELL AS LIGHT BEAM WHEN DESIRED
RADAR ANTENNAE INSIDE TAIL FIN
ROCKET TUBES
TV SCREEN
RADAR SCREEN
LABORATORY WITH BUILT-IN CABINETS, WORKBENCH, STOOL

BAT MAN

With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

BOB KANE

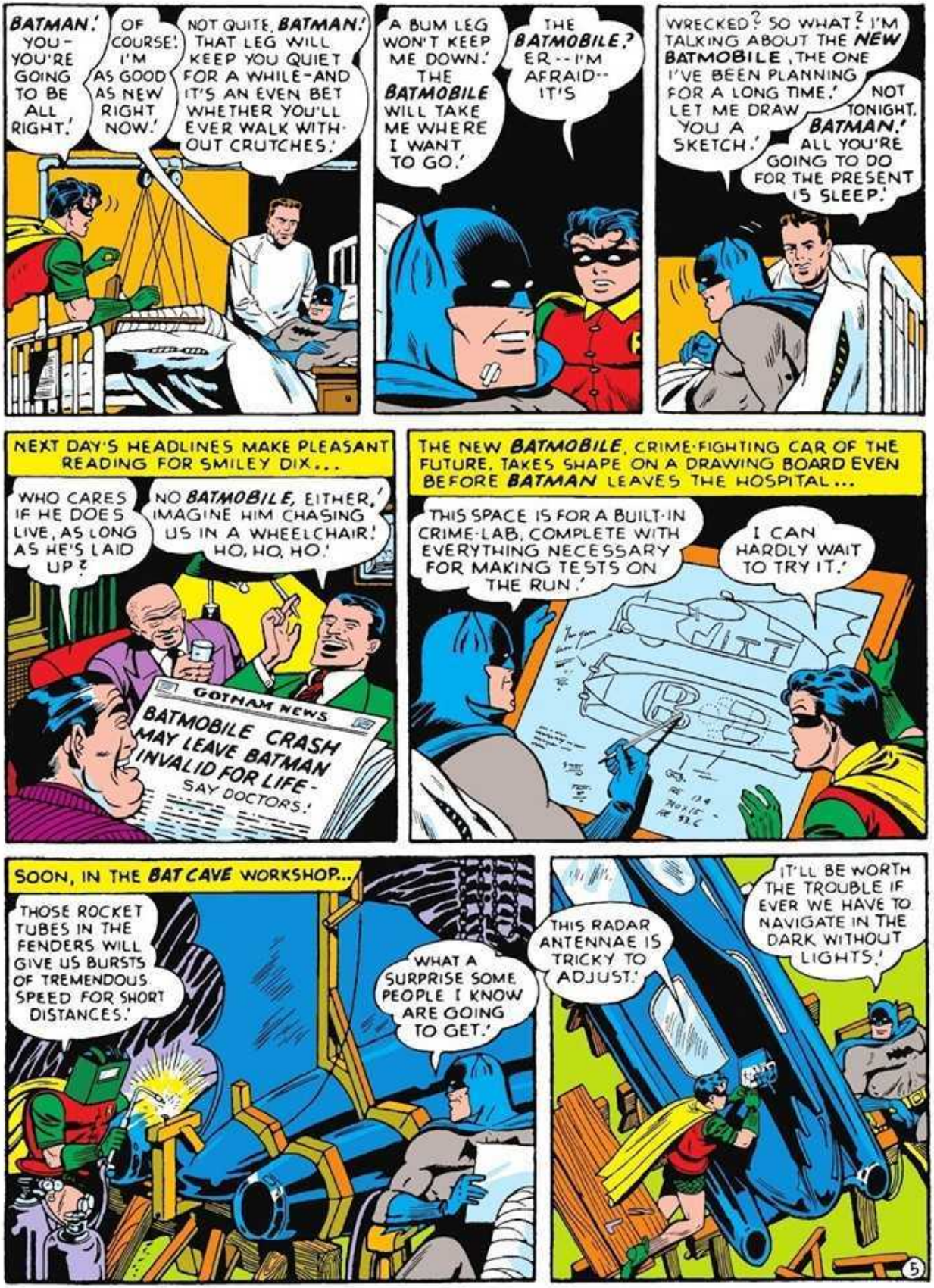
IMAGINE A CRIME-FIGHTING CAR—ONE THAT CAN SEE IN THE DARK--THAT CAN PEER AROUND CORNERS AND **THROUGH** SOLID OBSTRUCTIONS--AND COMBINE THESE AMAZING QUALITIES WITH **BLINDING SPEED** AND ALL THE LATEST SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING A COMPLETE MOBILE CRIME LAB!...THEN YOU'LL HAVE SOME FAINT IDEA OF THE LATEST WEAPON **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, THE BOY WONDER, HAVE DEVISED FOR THEIR CEASELESS WAR AGAINST WRONGDOING--THE CAR THAT IS YEARS AHEAD OF ALL OTHERS ON WHEELS--

"The BATMOBILE of 1950!"

ONE EVENING AS BRUCE WAYNE ATTENDS A FASHIONABLE ROOF PARTY...
AH!
TEE-HEE! ISN'T THAT MAGICIAN CLEVER MR. WAYNE?
IS HE?
HE'S ALMOST AS BORING AS SHE IS! WISH I COULD GET AWAY!... OH-OH— WHAT'S THIS?
THIS JOB OUGHT TO BE WORTH FIFTY GRAND!
CROOKS LEAVING THE VAN NESS MANSION—PROBABLY WITH VAN'S JEWEL COLLECTION! NOW I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY!
NEXT MOMENT...
WHAT BRAVE LADY OR GENTLEMAN WILL VOLUNTEER TO VANISH INTO THIN AIR FOR THE AMAZEMENT OF THE COMPANY?
I'LL RISK IT, IF MY CHARMING PARTNER WILL EXCUSE ME!
TEE-HEE!
HE HAS ENTERED THE CABINET OF MYSTERY! NOW, AS I SPEAK THE MAGIC WORDS, "BLOTTO EX VIZIADO—"
GONE—DEPARTED—VANISHED! ...AH, HIS LADY FRIEND BECOMES IMPATIENT!
TEE-HEE! NOW BRING HIM BACK!
AGAIN THE CABINET IS CLOSED, AND REOPENED TO A MUTTER OF MYSTIC SYLLABLES -- BUT...
BEHOLD!... EH-? THERE IS SOME MISTAKE...
HA-HA! A NEW GAG ADDED TO AN OLD TRICK!
I WONDER..
AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE MAGICIAN IS AS MYSTIFIED AS ANYONE—AND WITH GOOD REASON! AS THE CABINET CLOSED THE FIRST TIME...
LUCKY I KNOW HOW THESE TRICK CABINETS WORK! IF NO ONE SPOTS ME, THIS WILL BE A MORE SUCCESSFUL VANISHING ACT THAN ANYONE COUNTED ON!
2

AND BRUCE'S DISAPPEARANCE IS COMPLETE AS THE MIGHTY BATMAN MAKES USE OF HIS EFFICIENT CRIME-FIGHTING DEVICES...
HANDY GADGET, THIS BELT RADIO!
ROBIN.' BATMAN CALLING ROBIN.' BRING BATMOBILE TO LORRAINE AND SEMINOLE AVENUES...
IN DICK GRAYSON'S ROOM AT THE WAYNE HOME...
HO, HUM! SCHOOL WORK FINISHED, AND NOTHING TO DO BUT— HUH? BATMAN'S VOICE.' HERE WE GO AGAIN.'
...CALLING ROBIN.' BRING BATMOBILE.'
PRESENTLY, A SLIM, MASKED YOUTH GUIDES A SLEEK, POWERFUL CAR FROM THE BATCAVE'S SECRET EXIT.'
THE BATMOBILE'S GETTING PRETTY OLD—BUT IT'S STILL FASTER THAN ANYTHING ELSE ON WHEELS.'
MEANWHILE...
SMILEY DIX! BEEN CALLING ON YOUR WEALTHY FRIENDS?
BATMAN.' I'VE BEEN WONDERING IF YOU'D SHOW UP!
GET HIM, SNAKE!
THE WAY TO STRIKE A SNAKE, SNAKE, IS BEFORE HE GETS A CHANCE TO STRIKE YOU.'
DO SOMETHING, SMILEY! YOU SAID YOU HAD IT ALL FIGURED OUT HOW TO HANDLE BATMAN IF HE BUTTED IN.'
GIVE ME TIME, ZOOT!
HOW'S THAT, BOYS?
SWELL! ESPECIALLY THAT SLUG TO FINISH HIM.'
A NET.' ...UH-H-H...
NEXT MOMENT...
JUST A FLESH WOUND, ROBIN—AND MAYBE WE CAN CATCH THEM YET.' THEY TURNED THE CORNER, HEADING NORTH, NOT TEN SECONDS AGO!
I'M TOO LATE— AND YOU'RE HURT.'
3

AS REVVED-UP MOTORS SING A SONG OF SPEED...
WE'RE GAINING! THEY'LL NEVER WIN BY SPEED ALONE.'
WAIT'LL WE GET TO THE HIGH BRIDGE. IT'S MINED WITH DYNAMITE WE CAN SET OFF THE MINUTE WE GET ACROSS.'
SUDDENLY...
THEY'VE BLOWN UP THE BRIDGE- AND I CAN'T STOP.'
STOPPING WOULDN'T HELP.' THE WHOLE THING IS COLLAPSING.'
THERE THEY GO- FOR GOOD.'
THE UNDERWORLD OUGHTTA GIVE YOU A MILLION-DOLLAR REWARD FOR GETTING RID OF BATMAN, CHIEF.'
DOWN, DOWN PLUNGE THE CAPED HEROES, TOWARD WHAT SEEMS CERTAIN DEATH FOR AT LEAST ONE OF THEM.'
TRY TO GET OUT, BATMAN.' TRY TO HIT THE WATER! IT'S YOUR ONLY CHANCE.'
WHEN THE ECHOES OF THE CRASH HAVE DIED AWAY.
BATMAN.' IF THEY'VE KILLED YOU-- BUT I WON'T EVEN SAY IT.' HE CAN'T DIE.'
LATER, IN A HOSPITAL EMERGENCY WARD...
EMERGENCY WARD NO ADMITTANCE
YOU MAY COME IN NOW.'
WHY DOESN'T SOMEONE TELL ME SOMETHING? HE'S BEEN IN THERE FOR HOURS!... HUH? YOU MEAN HE'S--?
4


BATMAN! YOU-YOU'RE GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT!
OF COURSE! I'M AS GOOD AS NEW RIGHT NOW!
NOT QUITE, BATMAN! THAT LEG WILL KEEP YOU QUIET FOR A WHILE-AND IT'S AN EVEN BET WHETHER YOU'LL EVER WALK WITHOUT CRUTCHES!
A BUM LEG WON'T KEEP ME DOWN! THE BATMOBILE WILL TAKE ME WHERE I WANT TO GO!
THE BATMOBILE? ER--I'M AFRAID--IT'S
WRECKED? SO WHAT? I'M TALKING ABOUT THE NEW BATMOBILE, THE ONE I'VE BEEN PLANNING FOR A LONG TIME! LET ME DRAW YOU A SKETCH!
NOT TONIGHT, BATMAN! ALL YOU'RE GOING TO DO FOR THE PRESENT IS SLEEP!
NEXT DAY'S HEADLINES MAKE PLEASANT READING FOR SMILEY DIX...
WHO CARES IF HE DOES LIVE, AS LONG AS HE'S LAID UP?
NO BATMOBILE, EITHER! IMAGINE HIM CHASING US IN A WHEELCHAIR! HO, HO, HO!
GOTHAM NEWS
BATMOBILE CRASH MAY LEAVE BATMAN INVALID FOR LIFE - SAY DOCTORS!
THE NEW BATMOBILE, CRIME-FIGHTING CAR OF THE FUTURE, TAKES SHAPE ON A DRAWING BOARD EVEN BEFORE BATMAN LEAVES THE HOSPITAL...
THIS SPACE IS FOR A BUILT-IN CRIME-LAB, COMPLETE WITH EVERYTHING NECESSARY FOR MAKING TESTS ON THE RUN!
I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO TRY IT!
SOON, IN THE BAT CAVE WORKSHOP...
THOSE ROCKET TUBES IN THE FENDERS WILL GIVE US BURSTS OF TREMENDOUS SPEED FOR SHORT DISTANCES!
WHAT A SURPRISE SOME PEOPLE I KNOW ARE GOING TO GET!
THIS RADAR ANTENNAE IS TRICKY TO ADJUST!
IT'LL BE WORTH THE TROUBLE IF EVER WE HAVE TO NAVIGATE IN THE DARK WITHOUT LIGHTS!
5

ONE NIGHT, AS ROBIN PROWLS ALONE ON THE TRAIL OF THE CRAFTY SMILEY...
CASH ON E-Z TERMS
THE TERMS AREN'T THAT EASY, SMILEY!
WELL! I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THE BABY MEMBER OF THE BATMAN-ROBIN COMBINATION TO SHOW UP, NOW THAT THE BIG GUY'S ON THE SHELF!
I RIGGED UP A SPECIAL WEAPON TO DISCOURAGE YOU, KID - ALMOST AS DANGEROUS AS A POWDER PUFF! HAW, HAW!
FLOUR! PHOOEY!
A FAR CRY FROM - AH-CHOO! - THE BATMOBILE - BUT IT'S - AH-CHOO! - THE ONLY THING HANDY TO BORROW!
NO BATMAN TO WORRY ABOUT - AND HOW CAN A KID STOP US?
YOU SURE FIXED THINGS, SMILEY!
NOT REALIZING THE GRIMNESS OF THE OCCASION, ONLOOKERS LAUGH AT WHAT FOLLOWS...
HA, HA! ROBIN MUST BE GETTING INITIATED INTO A SCHOOL FRATERNITY!
MAYBE HE'S ADVERTISING A NEW FACE POWDER!
THE CROOKS ARE OUT OF SIGHT - AND I WISH I WERE!
MY KINGDOM FOR A HORSE!
DEPRESSED BY FAILURE, THE BOY WONDER RETURNS TO THE BAT CAVE...
WHAT A FOOL SMILEY MADE OF ME! HOW CAN I EVER CATCH A SMART, TRICKY GUY LIKE THAT WITHOUT BATMAN'S HELP?
TO BE DAZZLED BY A MAGNIFICENT SIGHT!
OH, BOY! IT'S FINISHED! WHAT A BEAUTY!
IT'S TEN YEARS AHEAD OF ANYTHING ELSE ON WHEELS, FELLA! HOW ABOUT A TRIAL SPIN?
6

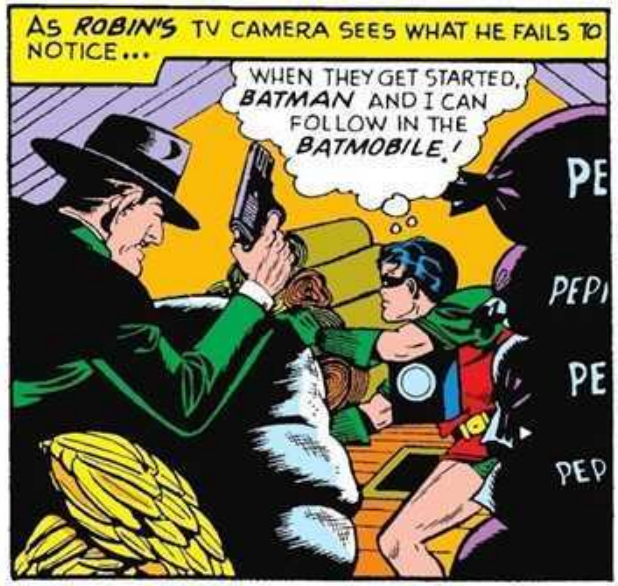
WITH THE GRACE AND SMOOTH-FLOWING POWER OF A PANTHER, THE NEW BATMOBILE GLIDES THROUGH THE NIGHT...
IT'S LIGHT AS A FEATHER, BATMAN, AND STEADY AS A ROCK!
YOU CAN ACCELERATE TO 100 MILES PER HOUR IN 100 FEET, AND STOP ON A DIME.!
SOON...
HERE'S WHERE SMILEY PULLED HIS LATEST JOB.' SHALL WE SEE IF THE POLICE ARE FINDING ANY CLUES?
YOU SEE.' LONG AS I'M WEARING THIS CAST, YOU'RE THE LEGMAN.'
WHAT A WAGON!
HERE'S A PIECE OF A TORN MAP WITH THIS PLACE MARKED ON IT, ROBIN-- APPARENTLY USED BY SMILEY IN PLANNING THE ROBBERY.'
MIND IF I BORROW IT FOR A WHILE, DETECTIVE CRAMER?
HERE'S THE MAP SMILEY USED-OR PART OF IT.' THOUGHT I'D GIVE IT A GOOD GOING-OVER, JUST IN CASE.'
NOT A BAD IDEA-ESPECIALLY SINCE IT GIVES ME AN EXCUSE TO TAKE THE WHEEL.'
IN THE COMPACT BUT AMAZINGLY COMPLETE TRAVELING LABORATORY BEHIND THE DRIVER'S SEAT...
HERE'S THE IMPRESSION OF ANOTHER X THAT MUST HAVE BEEN MARKED ON THE MISSING PART OF THE MAP, WHICH WAS FOLDED OVER THIS PART.'
THE ORIGINAL X WOULD BE RIGHT HERE IN THE NORTHWEST SECTION, ABOUT WHERE ELM STREET TOUCHES THE SOUTH RIVER.' I'LL CHECK WITH ANOTHER MAP...
LOOKS AS IF SMILEY MARKED PIER 57. SOUTH RIVER, TOO, BATMAN!
PIER 57? HANG ON, FELLA! HERE WE GO!
7

AT THE WATERFRONT...
THERE'S SMILEY'S CAR! I'LL CHECK ON PIER 57 FROM THE RIVER!
WISH I COULD GO ALONG, ROBIN! I'LL KEEP TRACK OF YOU ON THE TELEVISION SCREEN! YOUR PORTABLE TV CAMERA WILL TRANSMIT THE VIEW, AND OUR BELT RADIOS WILL CARRY THE SOUND!
57
58

I'LL DRIFT DOWN UNDER PIER 57 IN THIS BOAT, USED TO INSPECT THE PILING UNDER THE DOCKS!

TWO MINUTES LATER, INSIDE THE STORAGE SHED THAT COVERS PIER 57...
THESE ORIENTAL RUGS WILL BRING PLENTY OF CASH, ZOOT!
CAUGHT WITH THE GOODS! IF BATMAN WERE IN FIGHTING SHAPE, CATCHING THEM WOULD BE SIMPLE!
PEPPER
PEPPER
PEPPER
PEPPER

AND IN THE BATMOBILE...
THERE'S SMILEY AND ZOOT-- BUT WHERE'S SNAKE, THE OTHER MEMBER OF THE MOB?
OKAY, LET'S START LUGGING THE STUFF TO THE CAR!


AS ROBIN'S TV CAMERA SEES WHAT HE FAILS TO NOTICE...
WHEN THEY GET STARTED, BATMAN AND I CAN FOLLOW IN THE BATMOBILE!
PE
PEPI
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PEP

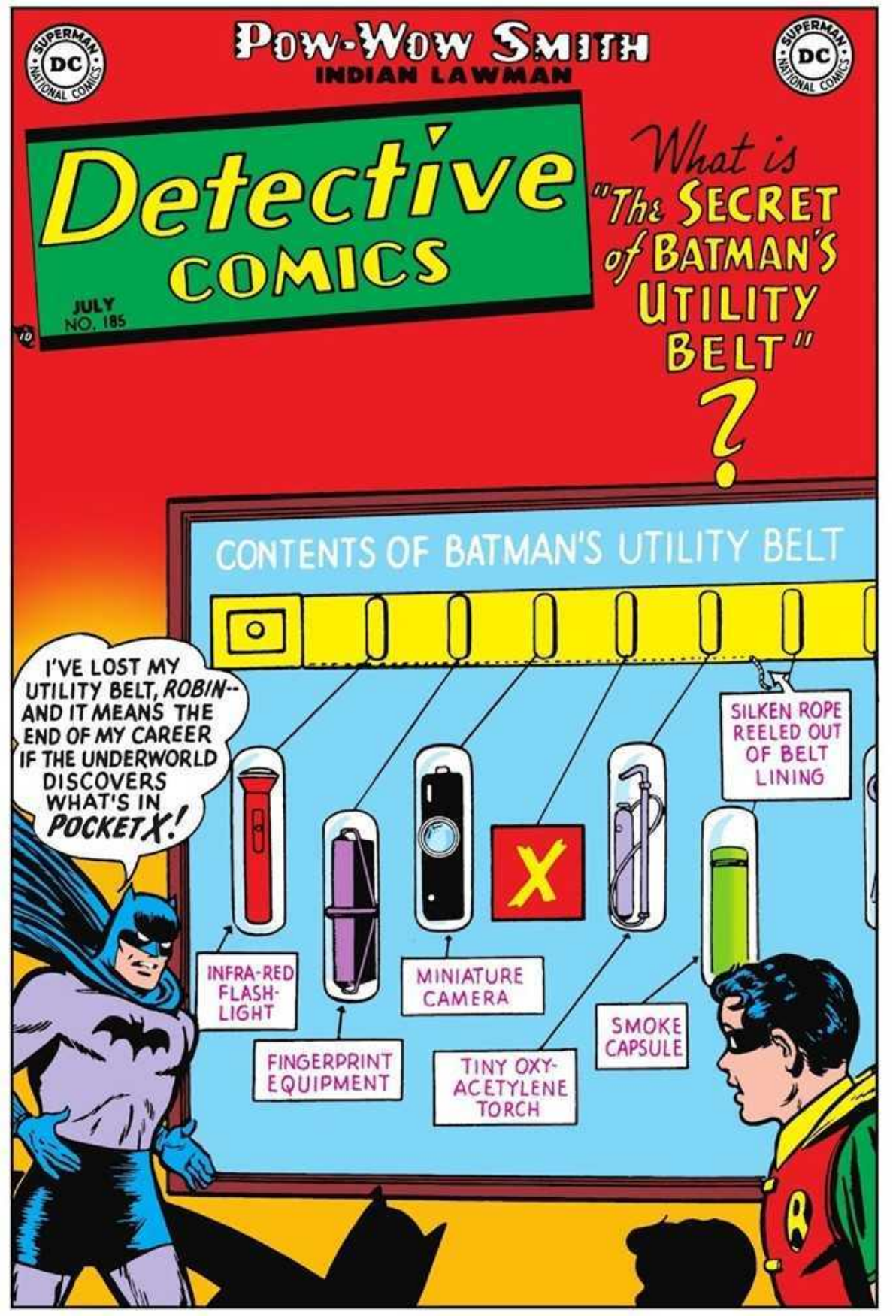
A ROUNDABOUT WARNING ALERTS THE BOY WONDER!
THERE HE IS— AND ROBIN HASN'T SPOTTED HIM!
LOOK OUT, ROBIN— BEHIND YOU!
8

... ROBIN-- BEHIND YOU!
HUH-? IF IT ISN'T MY OLD PAL SNAKE!
YIII! PEPPER!
OOOFF!
YOU AGAIN!
HAVE SOME, CHUM!
AND NOW, SMILEY-- OOPS!.. UH-H-H...
NICE OF YOU TO SAVE ME THE TROUBLE OF KNOCKING YOU OUT, KID!
BOK!
IT WAS FUNNY, YOU SHOWING UP ONCE, BUT THIS TIME YOU WIND UP IN THE RIVER!
TIME I TOOK A HAND IN THIS!
ABRUPTLY, AS A KNIFE-EDGED PROW SHEARS THROUGH WOOD AND STEEL...
GREAT GUNS- A NEW BATMOBILE-- AND BATMAN!
WHAT-? I CAN'T SEE!
ROBIN IS SAVE FROM THE RIVER - BUT THE OUTLAWS FLEE!
THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL! ARE YOU OKAY, ROBIN?
I-GUESS SO- IF ONLY MY HEAD WILL STOP SPINNING!
9

PRESENTLY...
HERE THEY COME! WHAT GOOD DID IT DO TO WRECK THE BATMOBILE WHEN NOW THEY GOT A BETTER ONE?
WE CRIPPLED BATMAN, DIDN'T WE? AND WE'LL SMASH THIS BATMOBILE LIKE WE DID THE LAST ONE!.. TAKE THE NEXT TURN AND STOP AT THE TUNNEL EXCAVATION!
MAKE SURE THE CHAIN WON'T PULL LOOSE, ZOOT!
LET'S HOPE IT DOESN'T YANK THE REAR AXLE OUT OF THE CAR!
THAT DID IT! IF THEY TRY TO CROSS, THEY'LL CRACK UP--AND IF THEY STOP, WE'LL STILL MAKE A GETAWAY!
I GOT TO HAND IT TO YOU, SMILEY! YOU SURE HAVE IDEAS!
AS THE FLEEING TRIO LOOKS BACK...
AN EXPLOSION --AND NO HEADLIGHTS FOLLOWING US ANY MORE!
THEY WENT INTO THE EXCAVATION AND BLEW UP! IT WAS SURE AN UNLUCKY DAY FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN WHEN THEIR PATH CROSSED MINE!
HAS SMILEY LURED THE NEW BATMOBILE TO DISASTER? LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT WHAT REALLY HAPPENED...
ANOTHER BRIDGE TRAP, BATMAN-- BUT THIS TIME WE'VE GOT A CHANCE TO STOP!
THIS TIME ROBIN, WE DON'T WANT TO STOP! HERE'S WHERE OUR ROCKET TUBES GET THEIR FIRST TRYOUT!
TWIN JETS OF FLAME FLASH OUT WITH THUNDERCLAP FORCE--AND THE MIRACLE CAR OF THE DYNAMIC DUO LITERALLY FLIES THROUGH THE AIR!
WHEE! THE BATPLANE COULDN'T DO BETTER!
NOW TO CUT OFF THE LIGHTS AND PLAY A LITTLE GAME WITH THOSE RATS!
10

SWERVING THROUGH A DESERTED WAREHOUSE DISTRICT, BATMAN PICKS A COURSE PARALLEL TO THAT OF THE CRIMINALS...
WHY NOT KEEP RIGHT ON THEIR TRAIL, BATMAN?
THIS IS PART OF THE GAME! YOU SEE, WE'RE GOING AT TWICE THEIR SPEED, AND THE WIND'S FROM AHEAD OF THEM...
SUDDENLY A THICK, OILY SMOKE SPURTS FROM THE ROCKET TUBES AND EXPANDS IN THE NIGHT AIR...
HAVING OUTDISTANCED THEM AND CUT THEM OFF, WE'LL BLANKET THE DISTRICT WITH THAT CHEMICAL BLACKOUT FOG WE DEVELOPED! SINCE NO ONE USES THESE STREETS AT NIGHT, IT WILL BE PERFECTLY SAFE!
SO THAT'S THE GAME— BLIND MAN'S BUFF!
NO CAR CAN MOVE THROUGH THIS FOG--UNLESS, LIKE THE BATMOBILE, IT'S EQUIPPED WITH RADAR!
IT'S EVEN MORE THRILLING THAN FLYING BLIND! LOOK AT THIS RADAR SCREEN!
AS THE BLACKNESS OVERWHELMS THEM, SMILEY AND HIS PALS ABANDON THEIR CAR...
NEVER SAW SMOKE LIKE THIS BEFORE! WE'LL HAVE TO FIND OUR WAY OUT ON FOOT!
YEAH—AND JUST TO BE SURE YOU DON'T GET LOST WITH THE SWAG FROM THAT LOAN COMPANY JOB, WE'LL HANG ONTO YOU!
IN THE BATMOBILE...
HERE THEY COME, ALL TOGETHER!
WHAT A SURPRISE THEY'RE GOING TO GET!
THE BATMOBILE GLIDES PAST THE TRIO INVISIBLY AND SILENTLY—WITH ONLY THE WHOP OF KNUCKLES AGAINST A JAWBONE TO BREAK THE STILLNESS!
SNAKE! WHERE ARE YOU? WHAT HAPPENED?
HEY!— UH-H-H...
11

HUH-? OH-H-H...
ZOOT SPEAK TO ME!
SNAKE! ZOOT! DON'T LEAVE ME HERE ALONE! IF ONLY I COULD SEE SOMETHING - ANYTHING -
THEN, THE SEARCHLIGHT ATOP THE NEW BATMOBILE BLAZES SUDDENLY...
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS, SMILEY!
YIIII! THE BAT SYMBOL!
CLEVER, EH? NOW LET US SHOW YOU HOW IT FEELS TO RIDE IN A GOOD CAR!
AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
GREAT WORK, BATMAN AND ROBIN! MOST AMAZING JOB I EVER HEARD OF!
YOU'RE EXAGGERATING, COMMISSIONER! SMILEY WAS TRICKY, BUT CATCHING HIM AND HIS PALS WASN'T SO VERY HARD!
WHO'S TALKING ABOUT SMILEY? I MEAN THE NEW BATMOBILE! IT'S SENSATIONAL - STUNNING - SUPERB!
WITH A FLEET OF THEM, WE COULD CLEAN UP GOTHAM CITY IN SHORT ORDER!
12
AND AS THE SUCCESSFUL TRIAL RUN ENDS IN THE BAT CAVE...
HOME AGAIN, AND - HUH? ... DON'T LOOK NOW, BATMAN -- BUT YOU'RE WALKING WITHOUT CRUTCHES!
I'VE BEEN ABLE TO FOR SEVERAL DAYS, ROBIN - BUT I PLAYED INVALID TO SEE IF THE BATMOBILE COULD MAKE UP THE DIFFERENCE! THE WAY IT PERFORMED, NOTHING SHORT OF A CATASTROPHE CAN KEEP EITHER OF US OUT OF CIRCULATION FROM NOW ON!
THE END


POW-WOW SMITH
INDIAN LAWMAN
Detective COMICS
JULY
NO. 185
What is "The SECRET of BATMAN'S UTILITY BELT"?
CONTENTS OF BATMAN'S UTILITY BELT
I'VE LOST MY UTILITY BELT, ROBIN-- AND IT MEANS THE END OF MY CAREER IF THE UNDERWORLD DISCOVERS WHAT'S IN POCKET X!
INFRA-RED FLASH-LIGHT
FINGERPRINT EQUIPMENT
MINIATURE CAMERA
TINY OXY-ACETYLENE TORCH
SMOKE CAPSULE
SILKEN ROPE REELED OUT OF BELT LINING
X

BATMAN

With

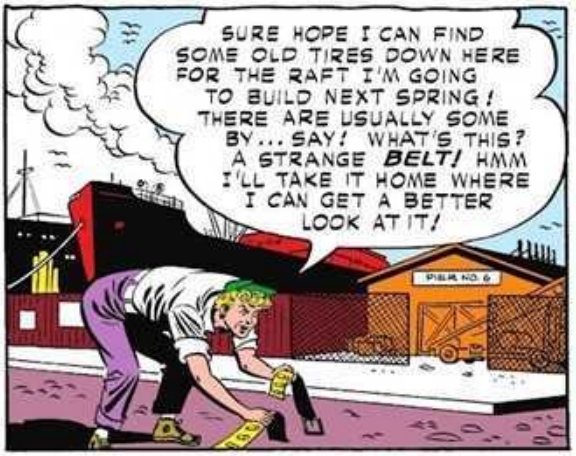
ROBIN

THE BOY WONDER

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU FOUND **BATMAN'S** UTILITY BELT? HERE IS THE STORY OF PEOPLE WHO HAD JUST SUCH AN EXPERIENCE! AND HERE IS THE FANTASTIC RECORD OF WHAT HAPPENED IN 24 HOURS TO ORDINARY CITIZENS WHEN, THROUGH A STRANGE TWIST OF FATE, THIS POWERFUL CRIME-FIGHTING WEAPON CROSSED THEIR PATHS! BUT WHAT IS THE POTENT FORCE INSIDE THE BELT? AND WHAT FABULOUS SECRET DOES IT HOLD THAT THE **DARING DUO** OF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** MUST, AT ALL COSTS, PREVENT DISCOVERY OF...

"The SECRET of BATMANS UTILITY BELT!"

ONE AFTERNOON, ALONG THE GOTHAM CITY WATERFRONT...

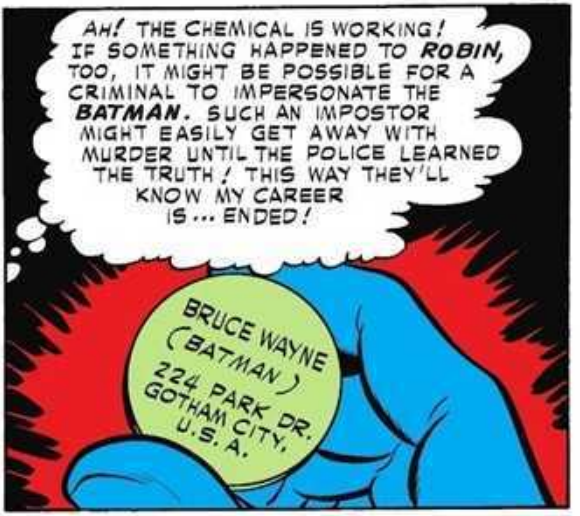


AND SOON AFTER, IN THE CLUTTERED ROOM OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PAUL HENSON...

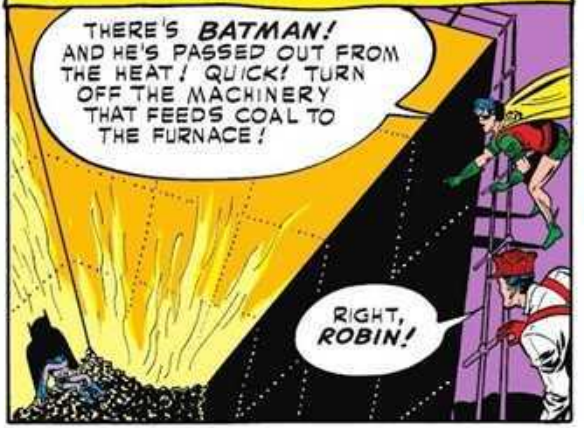
A BELT WITH POCKETS WHICH CONTAIN STRANGE CHEMICALS, A TINY MICROSCOPE, A MINIATURE CAMERA AND OTHER MATERIALS WHICH CAN BE USED TO FIGHT CRIME! CAN THIS BE... YES! IT MUST BE BATMAN'S AMAZING UTILITY BELT! BUT HOW DID IT COME TO BE LYING ABANDONED ON THE WATERFRONT?

TO FIND OUT, LET'S TURN THE CLOCK BACK SEVERAL HOURS TO A SCENE IN THE CITY'S GIANT ELECTRIC POWER PLANT...

THEN, FROM A SECRET COMPARTMENT IN HIS UTILITY BELT, BATMAN EXTRACTS A SMALL, BLANK DISC AND...



SLOWLY, THE COAL IS FED INTO THE BLAZING FURNACE! AND WITH THE PASSING MINUTES THE HEAT INSIDE THE HOPPER INCREASES UNTIL...



AND SHORTLY AFTER...

I'LL PUT THIS IDENTIFICATION DISC WHICH REVEALS THAT I'M BRUCE WAYNE BACK IN MY UTILITY BELT AND DESTROY IT WHEN WE RETURN TO THE BAT-CAVE!
WHEN YOU RECENTLY GOT THE IDEA OF A "BLANK" DISC WHICH WOULD REVEAL YOUR IDENTITY, ONLY WHEN YOU APPLIED A SECRET CHEMICAL, I NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D HAVE TO USE IT THIS SOON, BATMAN!
BUT AS THE TWO HEAD HOMEWARD...
LOOK, ROBIN! THE WAREHOUSE IS BEING LOOTED!
THIS CONVEYOR BELT WILL CARRY US RIGHT TO THEM... A COUPLE OF PACKAGES THEY DON'T EXPECT!
BATMAN AND ROBIN! UGHHH...
WE'RE FROM THE WELCOMING COMMITTEE! WE ALWAYS MEET "DISTINGUISHED GUESTS" AT THE DOCK!
SOK
WHRRRR
BUT AS BATMAN MOPS UP THE LAST OF THE WATERFRONT CRIMINALS, A STRANGE TWIST OF FATE SETS THE STAGE FOR A GRIM DRAMA WHICH IS YET TO COME...
SOK
THAT CAP PISTOL WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD NOW, SONNY!
NOTE: FLYWHEEL ON CONVEYOR MOTOR SPINS AGAINST UTILITY BELT.
LATER, IN THE BAT-CAVE...
THE POLICE MUST HAVE THOSE WATERFRONT RATS BEHIND BARS BY NOW, ROBIN! LET'S SEE! I WAS GOING TO DESTROY THAT DISC AND... SAY! MY UTILITY BELT! IT'S GONE!
AND IT CONTAINED THE DISC WITH YOUR IDENTITY AS BRUCE WAYNE CLEARLY MARKED ON IT!
WITHOUT A WORD, TWO FIGURES LEAP INTO THE SWIFT BATMOBILE! AND AFTER A DASH ACROSS THE CITY...
IT'S NO USE, BATMAN! THE BELT'S JUST NOT HERE!
I WAS SURE IT CAME OFF DURING THE FIGHT WITH THOSE CROOKS! BUT WE'D BETTER SEARCH THE ENTIRE ROUTE BETWEEN HERE AND THE BAT-CAVE! HMM... THIS COULD BE USEFUL! I'LL ANALYZE IT LATER!
4

AND SO IT IS THAT PAUL HENSON HAS AN EXCITING NEW POSSESSION...

BOY! I CAN KEEP THE TINY MICROSCOPE AND THE MINIATURE CAMERA! BUT I WON'T WANT THESE OLD CONTAINERS! I'LL THROW THEM AWAY AND I CAN USE THE POCKETS THEY WERE IN TO CARRY MY *OWN* STUFF!

SMOKE PELLETS

SECRET COMPARTMENT CONTAINING IDENTIFICATION DISC

GAS CAPSULES

GREAT! MY PET CHAMELEON FITS IN THIS POCKET! AND I CAN CARRY INDIAN NUTS TO FEED THE SQUIRRELS IN ANOTHER! AND STILL ANOTHER POCKET I CAN CARRY MARBLES AND...

ING UAL

INSECT GUIDE

RARE BUGS

INDIAN NUTS

AND WHILE **BATMAN'S** SCIENTIFIC CRIME-FIGHTING TOOLS ARE BEING DISPLACED BY A YOUTH'S TREASURED POSSESSIONS, LIGHTS BURN LATE IN THE **BAT-CAVE**...

HMM... THIS CLOD OF EARTH I PICKED UP ON THE DOCK! IT'S THE HIGHEST GRADE OF TOP SOIL! IT COULD COME FROM A GOLF COURSE OR FROM AN *ATHLETIC FIELD!*

CALIF. TOP SOIL

GEORGIA CLAY

SUB SOIL

ARIZ. SAND

LOAM

WHILE I CHECK THE OTHER POSSIBILITIES TOMORROW, *ROBIN*, YOU CAN DO *YOUR* JOB DURING YOUR REGULAR SCHOOL DAY! THE PERSON WHO FOUND MY UTILITY BELT COULD BE A SCHOOL KID... WHAT I FOUND MIGHT BE EARTH FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC FIELD! SO KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN!

NEXT DAY, AS DICK GRAYSON, YOUNG WARD OF FABULOUSLY WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE, LEAVES GOTHAM HIGH...

GO ON HOME AND GET YOUR SKATES, PAUL! WE'RE ALL MEETING AT COBB'S POND!

OKAY!

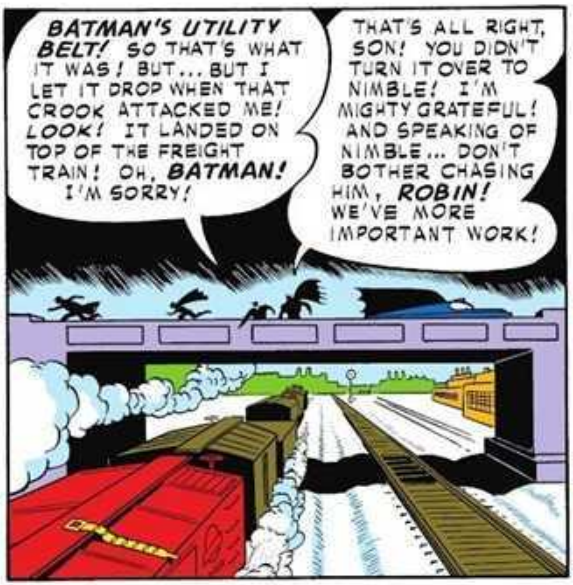
PAUL HENSON! THAT BELT HE'S WEARING! IT SHOWS JUST A BIT BELOW HIS SWEATER, BUT I'M CERTAIN IT'S THE *UTILITY BELT!* I'D BETTER GO HOME AND REPORT TO BRUCE!

AND LATER, AT THE FROZEN POND...

IT'S JIMMY! HANG ON, FELLER! I'M COMING!

HELP! THE ICE IS BREAKING!

STAND BACK, THE REST OF YOU! DON'T WANT TOO MUCH WEIGHT ON... OH, OH! THE ICE IS STARTING TO CRACK UNDER ME!
CRRRACK!
BUT AS THE RESCUER'S' DESPERATE FINGERS GRASP AT THE VERY END OF THE AMAZING UTILITY BELT, THEY MAKE A SURPRISING DISCOVERY...
FUNNY THING I DIDN'T DISCOVER THIS LAST NIGHT! A HIDDEN ROPE!
IT'S ALL RIGHT! I CAN MOVE BACK FROM THE CRACKING EDGE AND JIMMY WILL STILL HAVE SOMETHING TO HOLD ONTO!
BATMAN'S SILKEN ROPE IS DRAWN OUT OF BELT LINING LIKE FISHERMAN'S LINE ON REEL!
AND ON A NEARBY BANK, THE RESCUE SCENE IS CLOSELY WATCHED BY AN EXTREMELY INTERESTED MEMBER OF THE UNDERWORLD...
THAT KID PULLED A ROPE OUT OF HIS BELT... JUST THE WAY BATMAN WHIPS OUT HIS SILKEN ROPE! I THINK I'LL GET A CLOSER LOOK AT IT!
PRESENTLY...
ALL THOSE LITTLE COMPARTMENTS ON THE BELT! IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE! AND YET IT COULD BE...
SAY, KID! THAT BELT OF YOURS... I'LL GIVE YOU FIVE BUCKS FOR IT!
NO, THANKS, MISTER! I LIKED IT WHEN I FOUND IT AND NOW THAT IT'S HELPED SAVE MY PAL'S LIFE... NO, THANKS!
HE SAID HE FOUND IT! IT MUST BE THE UTILITY BELT!
LOOK, KID! I HAVEN'T TIME TO BARGAIN WITH YOU! HAND OVER THE BELT AND YOU WON'T GET HURT!
SAY! WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? THAT KNIFE DOESN'T SCARE ME! I'M STILL NOT LETTING YOU HAVE MY BELT!
SUDDENLY, A KNIFE BLADE FLASHES! BUT BEFORE IT CAN FIND A TARGET, AN ARM REACHES OUT LIKE A STRIKING COBRA AND...
NO FRESH KID CAN STOP "NIMBLE" HYLE! WHY, I'LL ...
OUCH!
YOU'LL DROP THAT KNIFE FOR A STARTER, NIMBLE! SORRY TO BREAK UP YOUR SCHEME TO GET MY UTILITY BELT!
6



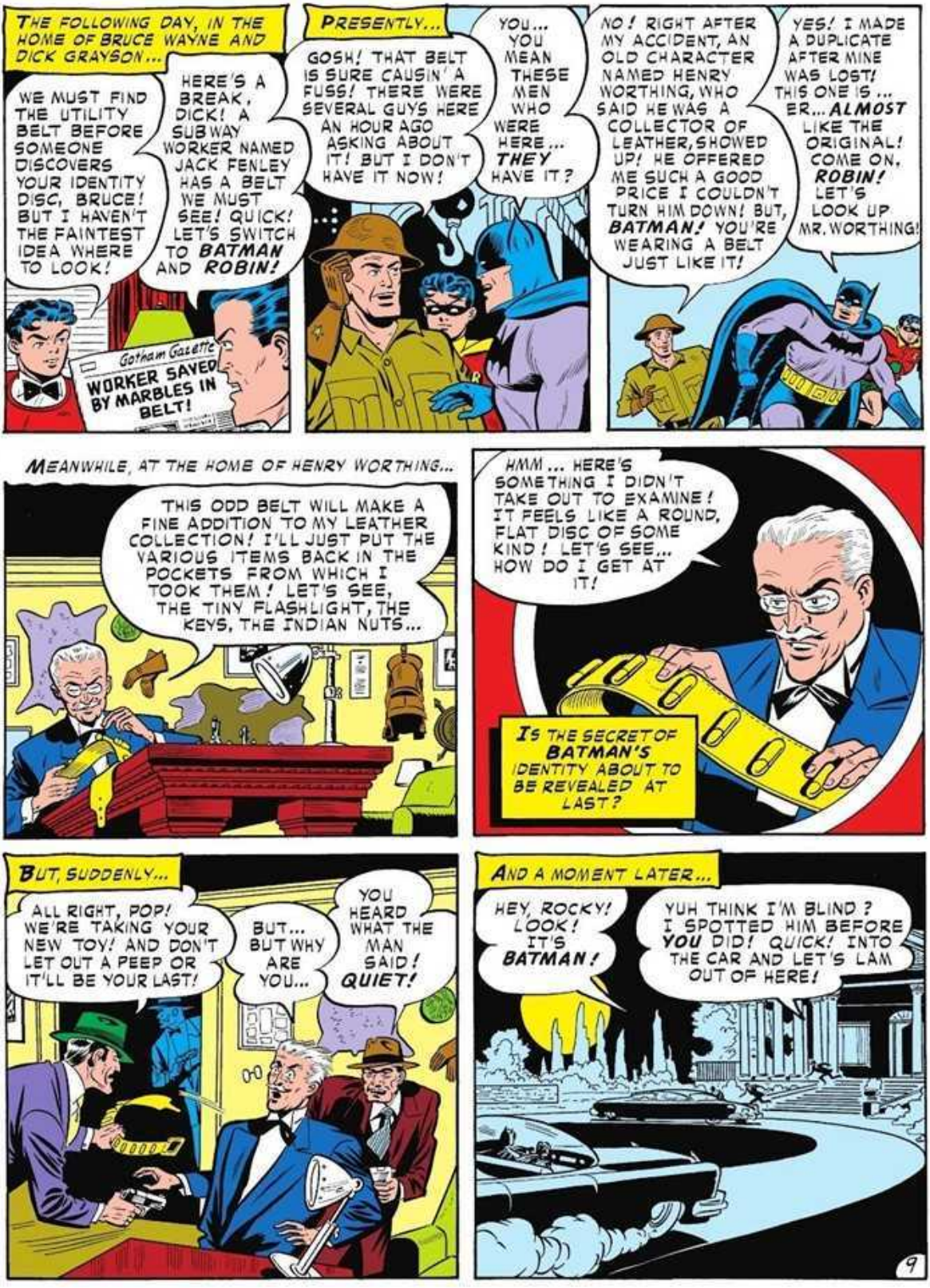
BUT AS BATMAN AND ROBIN FOLLOW THE TRAIL OF THE WONDER BELT, NIMBLE HURRIES TO AN UNDERWORLD HIDEOUT WHERE...

AND SO, THE UNDERWORLD IS PITTED AGAINST THE DARING DUO IN A DESPERATE HUNT! BUT WHERE IS THE OBJECT OF ITS SEARCH AT THIS MOMENT?

THAT NIGHT, UNAWARE THAT HE CARRIES A PRIZE SOUGHT BY BOTH LAWMAN AND OUTLAW, THE HOBO TAKES REFUGE IN A DARK FREIGHT CAR! AND MOMENTS LATER...

BUT AT THIS MOMENT, THE STRANGE FATE WHICH SEEMS TO FOLLOW BATMAN'S AMAZING BELT ASSERTS ITSELF! AND AS THE HOBO STRUGGLES DESPERATELY WITH THE DOOR...

THAT LIZARD! IT SEEMED TO LEAP RIGHT OUT OF THE BELT I FOUND! IT DISTRACTED THE DOG JUST IN TIME OR HE'D HAVE BEEN AT MY THROAT! AH! THE DOOR FINALLY BUDGED! NOW I CAN GET TO SAFETY!
THUS, FOR THE SECOND TIME IN ONE DAY, A LIFE IS SAVED BY THE ASTOUNDING UTILITY BELT! AND SOMETIME LATER, IN A PAWN SHOP...
I BOUGHT THIS FROM A HOBO YESTERDAY! HE SAID IT HAD SAVED HIS LIFE BUT HE NEEDED MONEY BADLY SO HE LET IT GO!
THOSE LITTLE POCKETS WILL BE GOOD FOR CARRYING MY TOOLS! I'M WORKING ON THE NEW SUBWAY THEY'RE BUILDING!
AFTERWARDS, BENEATH THE STREETS OF GOTHAM CITY...
ONLY ONE POCKET IN THIS BELT I BOUGHT WAS EMPTY BUT THE OTHERS HAD SOME INTERESTING STUFF IN THEM! I'LL GET A BETTER LOOK AT IT WHEN I CLEAN OUT THE POCKETS TONIGHT! WOW! THAT BLASTIN' IS CLOSE!
BOOM!
SUDDENLY, THERE IS A ROAR LIKE AN UNLEASHED NIAGARA AND...
WHOOSH!
CRASH!
THAT LAST BLAST WAS TOO CLOSE! THE WATER MAIN'S BROKEN! I'D BETTER GET BACK... OUCH! THE STEEL GIRDER'S PINNED ME UNDER IT!
THE WATER'S RISING AND...{GASP} ...I CAN'T MOVE! THE PAWNBROKER... {GASP}... SAID THE LIFE OF THE BELT'S LAST OWNER WAS SAVED! WAIT! I REMEMBER SOMETHING IN ONE OF THE POCKETS! MY LIFE MAY BE SAVED BY THE BELT, TOO!
WITH TREMBLING FINGERS, THE TRAPPED WORKER TAKES SEVERAL OF THE MARBLES WHICH WERE STORED IN THE BELT BY PAUL HENSON AND PLACES THEM UNDER THE GIRDER...
I DON'T KNOW WHY THERE WERE MARBLES IN THIS BELT! BUT I'M SURE GLAD THEY WERE THERE! NOW I CAN... HMPH! THERE! THE HEAVY GIRDER IS ROLLING OFF MY LEG! I'M SAVED!
8


THE FOLLOWING DAY, IN THE HOME OF BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON...
WE MUST FIND THE UTILITY BELT BEFORE SOMEONE DISCOVERS YOUR IDENTITY DISC, BRUCE! BUT I HAVEN'T THE FAINTEST IDEA WHERE TO LOOK!
HERE'S A BREAK, DICK! A SUBWAY WORKER NAMED JACK FENLEY HAS A BELT WE MUST SEE! QUICK! LET'S SWITCH TO BATMAN AND ROBIN!
Gotham Gazette
WORKER SAVED BY MARBLES IN BELT!
PRESENTLY...
GOSH! THAT BELT IS SURE CAUSIN' A FUSS! THERE WERE SEVERAL GUYS HERE AN HOUR AGO ASKING ABOUT IT! BUT I DON'T HAVE IT NOW!
YOU... YOU MEAN THESE MEN WHO WERE HERE... THEY HAVE IT?
NO! RIGHT AFTER MY ACCIDENT, AN OLD CHARACTER NAMED HENRY WORTHING, WHO SAID HE WAS A COLLECTOR OF LEATHER, SHOWED UP! HE OFFERED ME SUCH A GOOD PRICE I COULDN'T TURN HIM DOWN! BUT, BATMAN! YOU'RE WEARING A BELT JUST LIKE IT!
YES! I MADE A DUPLICATE AFTER MINE WAS LOST! THIS ONE IS... ER... ALMOST LIKE THE ORIGINAL! COME ON, ROBIN! LET'S LOOK UP MR. WORTHING!
MEANWHILE, AT THE HOME OF HENRY WORTHING...
THIS ODD BELT WILL MAKE A FINE ADDITION TO MY LEATHER COLLECTION! I'LL JUST PUT THE VARIOUS ITEMS BACK IN THE POCKETS FROM WHICH I TOOK THEM! LET'S SEE, THE TINY FLASHLIGHT, THE KEYS, THE INDIAN NUTS...
HMM... HERE'S SOMETHING I DIDN'T TAKE OUT TO EXAMINE! IT FEELS LIKE A ROUND, FLAT DISC OF SOME KIND! LET'S SEE... HOW DO I GET AT IT!
IS THE SECRET OF BATMAN'S IDENTITY ABOUT TO BE REVEALED AT LAST?
BUT, SUDDENLY...
ALL RIGHT, POP! WE'RE TAKING YOUR NEW TOY! AND DON'T LET OUT A PEEP OR IT'LL BE YOUR LAST!
BUT... BUT WHY ARE YOU...
YOU HEARD WHAT THE MAN SAID! QUIET!
AND A MOMENT LATER...
HEY, ROCKY! LOOK! IT'S BATMAN!
YUH THINK I'M BLIND? I SPOTTED HIM BEFORE YOU DID! QUICK! INTO THE CAR AND LET'S LAM OUT OF HERE!
9

BUT CAN THE DUO WORK FAST ENOUGH? FOR SOON AFTER, IN AN UNDERWORLD HIDEOUT...

NOW WE'LL ARRANGE TO HAVE WORD GET OUT BY "ACCIDENT" AS TO WHERE THE UTILITY BELT IS BEING KEPT! THEN, UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS, BATMAN WILL WALK RIGHT INTO OUR TRAP! SAY! WHAT'S THIS DISC I FEEL?

WELL, WELL! WHAT DO YOU KNOW! A DISC WITH BATMAN'S IDENTITY ON IT! NOW WE DON'T HAVE TO TAKE A CHANCE THAT HE'LL COME TO US... WE'RE GOING TO HIM! HA, HA! THIS DISC EVEN GIVES HIS ADDRESS!

THAT NIGHT, OUTSIDE A LAVISH MANSION ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF GOTHAM CITY...
THERE THEY ARE! A MAN AND A BOY PLAYING HANDBALL! SO THAT'S BATMAN AND ROBIN! ALL RIGHT! WE'RE TAKING NO CHANCES! SET UP THE MACHINE GUN AND LET 'EM HAVE IT!

BUT AS THE MAN AND BOY CONTINUE THEIR VIGOROUS GAME OF HANDBALL, A STRANGE THING HAPPENS...
NICE OF YOU BOYS TO DROP AROUND... AND JUST WHEN WE WERE EXPECTING YOU!
BATMAN! ROBIN! BUT THIS CAN'T BE!

PRESENTLY, AFTER THE POLICE ARRIVE...
WHEN YOU MADE THE DUPLICATE BELT I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU WERE PUTTING IN ANOTHER IDENTIFICATION DISC... ONE WITH A FAKE IDENTITY ON IT, BATMAN!
YOU WERE BUSY, ROBIN! LATER, THINGS HAPPENED SO FAST I HADN'T TIME TO EXPLAIN! BUT I FIGURED THE FALSE IDENTIFICATION MIGHT COME IN HANDY! WHEN I WAS WRESTLING WITH ROCKY, I SWITCHED BELTS! I'M WEARING THE ORIGINAL NOW!

IT WAS MIGHTY BRAVE OF MY FRIEND BILL WEAVER AND HIS SON DON TO OFFER TO HAVE THE NAME "BILL WEAVER" AND THIS ADDRESS PUT ON THE IDENTIFICATION DISC AFTER I EXPLAINED THE SITUATION!
I GET IT! YOU KNEW THE CROOKS WOULD COME TO THE ADDRESS ON THE DISC THINKING IT WAS THE REAL HOME OF BATMAN AND ROBIN! THAT WAY WE COULD NAB 'EM!

SUDDENLY, THE HANDBALL COURT IS PLUNGED INTO DARKNESS AS...

BATMAN! WE'D BETTER TELL DON AND HIS DAD THEY CAN STOP PLAYING HANDBALL NOW AND... HEY! THE LIGHTS! SOMEONE PUT THEM OUT!

THIS IS "DRUM" CARTER! I SWITCHED OFF THE LIGHTS! YOU THOUGHT THOSE COPS HAD ME SAFELY IN HAND! BUT I FOOLED 'EM! NOW I'M READY TO MAKE A BARGAIN WITH YOU, **BATMAN!**

YOU CAN'T SEE ME AND I CAN'T SEE YOU! BUT IF I START SHOOTING AROUND THE ROOM, YOUR FRIENDS MAY GET HURT! THAT'S WHAT I'LL DO UNLESS YOU PROMISE ME SAFE CONDUCT THROUGH THE POLICE LINES!

I'LL STALL HIM UNTIL I THROW OUT THE GAS CAPSULE IN MY UTILITY BELT! AH, OH! **IT'S NOT THERE!** THE POCKET'S FILLED WITH LITTLE **NUTS!** HMM... MAYBE I CAN USE THEM!

QUICKLY, **BATMAN** ROLLS A HANDFUL OF THE INDIAN NUTS OVER THE FLOOR! AND THEN...

AH! IT WORKED! **YOU** STEPPED ON THE NUTS I SPREAD ON THE FLOOR AND THE **CRACKING SOUND** GAVE AWAY YOUR POSITION!

CRACK! CRACK!

12

SOME DAYS AFTER, AT THE HOME OF BILL WEAVER AND HIS SON, DON...

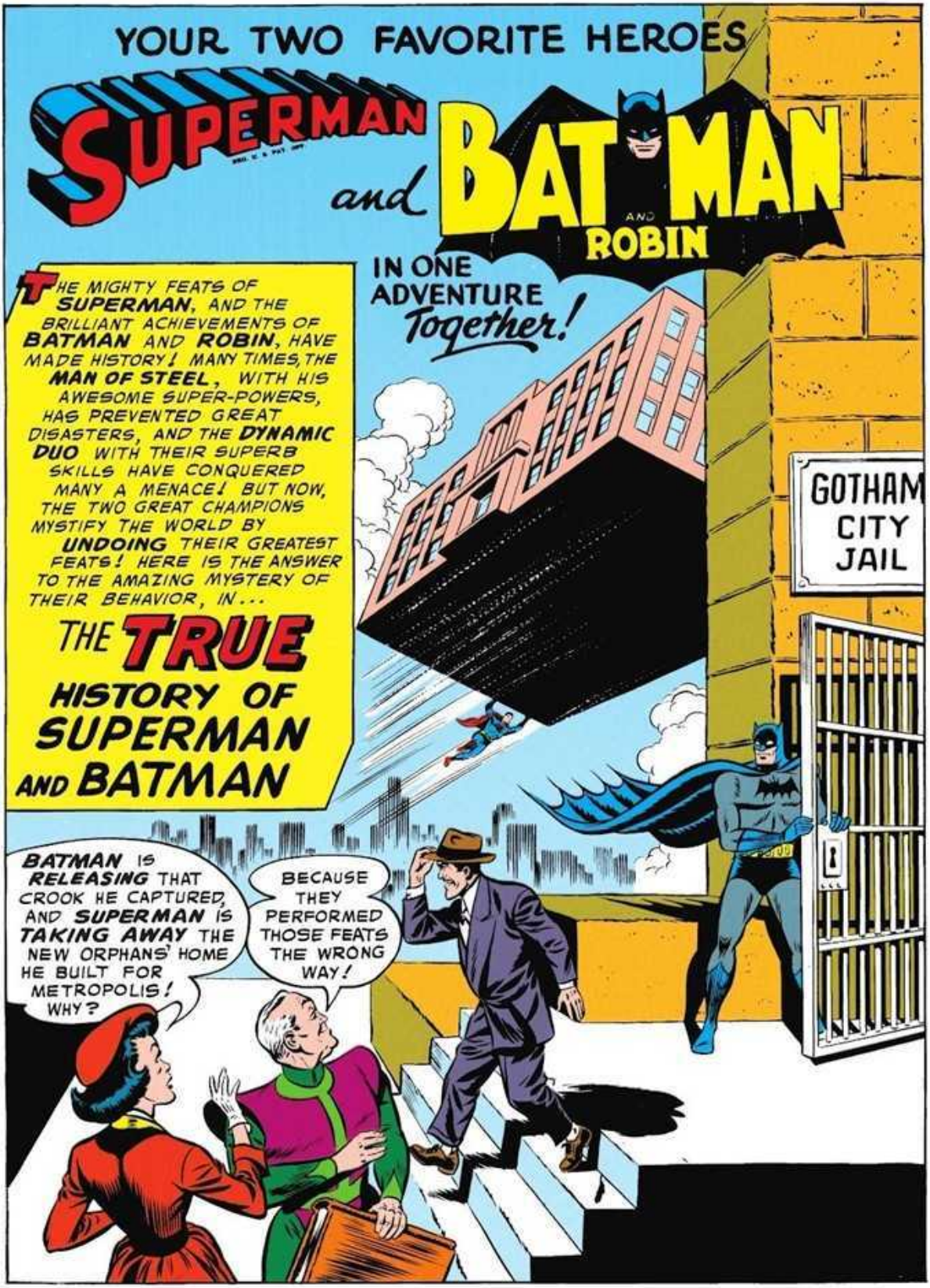
MIGHTY FINE FEED YOU PUT ON, MR. WEAVER! AND IT SURE IS SWELL TO MEET THE REST OF THE FOLKS WHOSE PATHS WERE CROSSED BY THE **UTILITY BELT!**

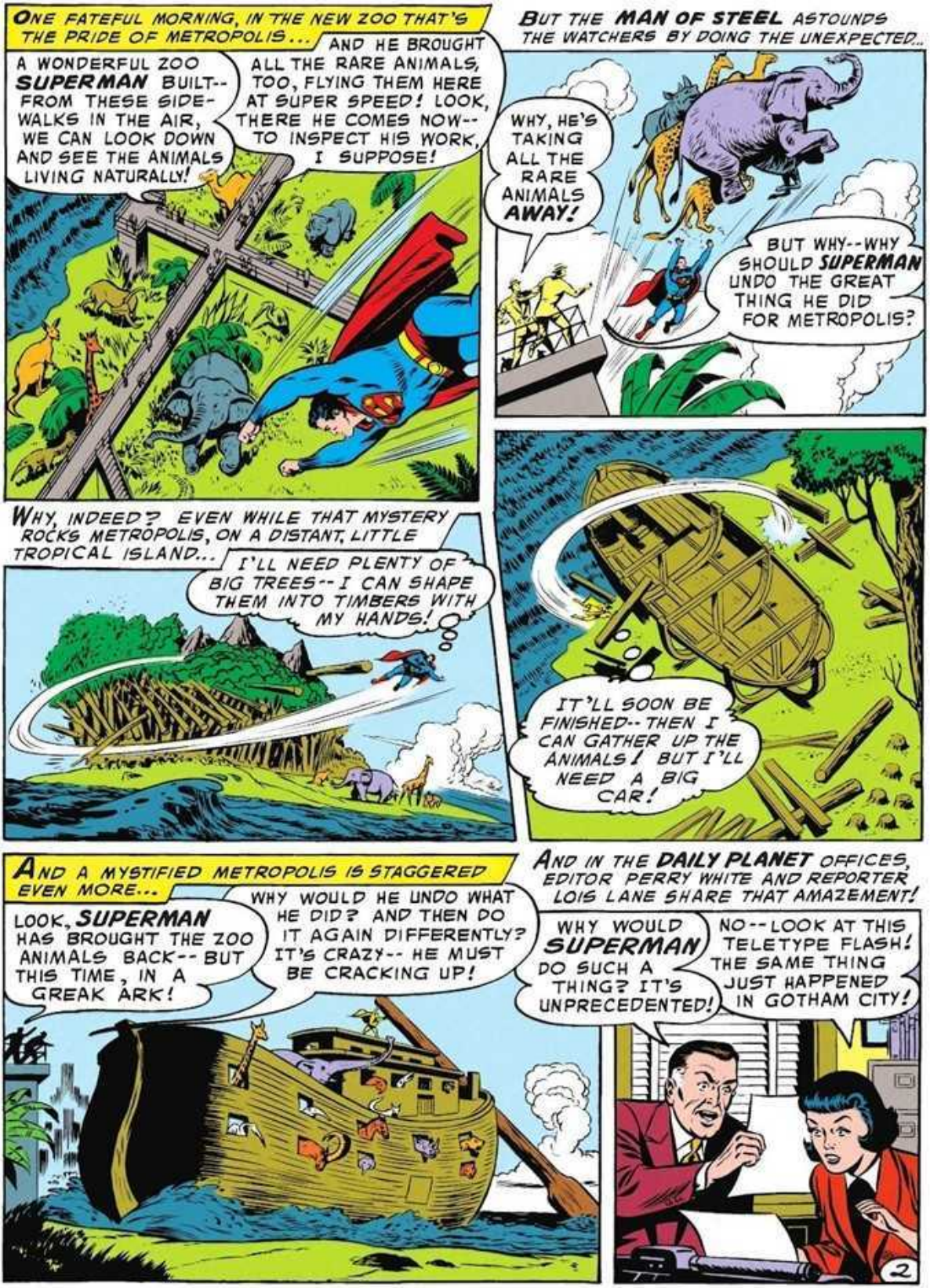
BY THE WAY, PAUL! I BELIEVE THESE MARBLES AND INDIAN NUTS BELONG TO YOU! THEY FITTED NEATLY INTO THE BELT'S POCKETS BUT I THINK I'LL PUT IN A NEW SET OF GAS AND SMOKE CAPSULES JUST THE SAME!

THE END

BATMAN With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

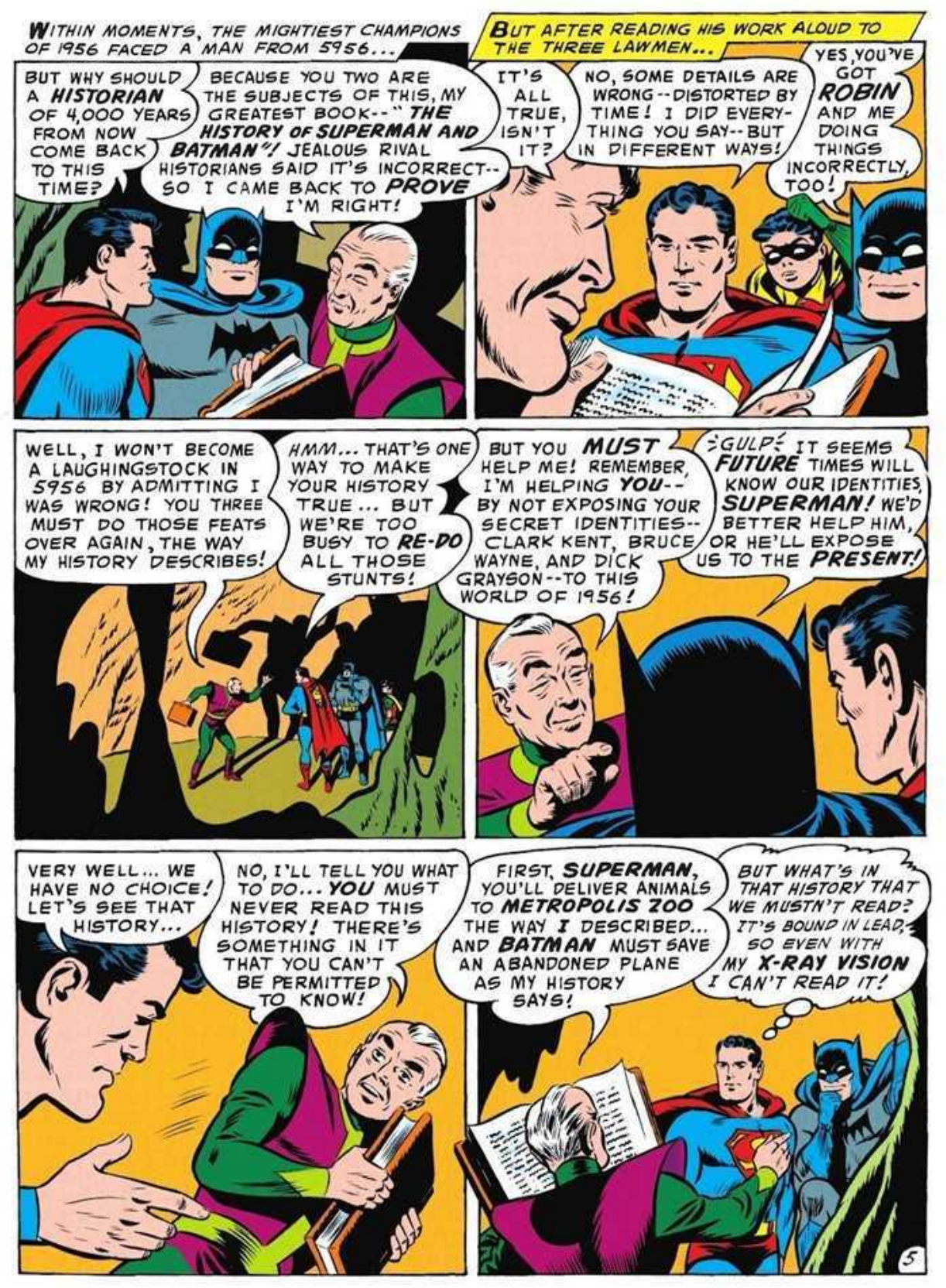
DC
SUPERMAN
NATIONAL COMICS
ALL NEW STORIES
MAR.-APR.
NO. 81
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
WORLD'S FINEST
COMICS
Featuring "The TRUE HISTORY of SUPERMAN and BATMAN!"
I, KA-THAR, OF 5956, HAVE THE WHOLE TRUTH ABOUT YOU IN THIS BOOK--INCLUDING YOUR SECRET IDENTITIES -- CLARK KENT, BRUCE WAYNE, DICK GRAYSON!
R


YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES
SUPERMAN
and
BATMAN AND ROBIN
IN ONE ADVENTURE Together!
THE MIGHTY FEATS OF SUPERMAN, AND THE BRILLIANT ACHIEVEMENTS OF BATMAN AND ROBIN, HAVE MADE HISTORY! MANY TIMES, THE MAN OF STEEL, WITH HIS AWESOME SUPER-POWERS, HAS PREVENTED GREAT DISASTERS, AND THE DYNAMIC DUO WITH THEIR SUPERB SKILLS HAVE CONQUERED MANY A MENACE! BUT NOW, THE TWO GREAT CHAMPIONS MYSTIFY THE WORLD BY UNDOING THEIR GREATEST FEATS! HERE IS THE ANSWER TO THE AMAZING MYSTERY OF THEIR BEHAVIOR, IN...
THE TRUE HISTORY OF SUPERMAN AND BATMAN
GOTHAM CITY JAIL
BATMAN IS RELEASING THAT CROOK HE CAPTURED, AND SUPERMAN IS TAKING AWAY THE NEW ORPHANS' HOME HE BUILT FOR METROPOLIS! WHY?
BECAUSE THEY PERFORMED THOSE FEATS THE WRONG WAY!

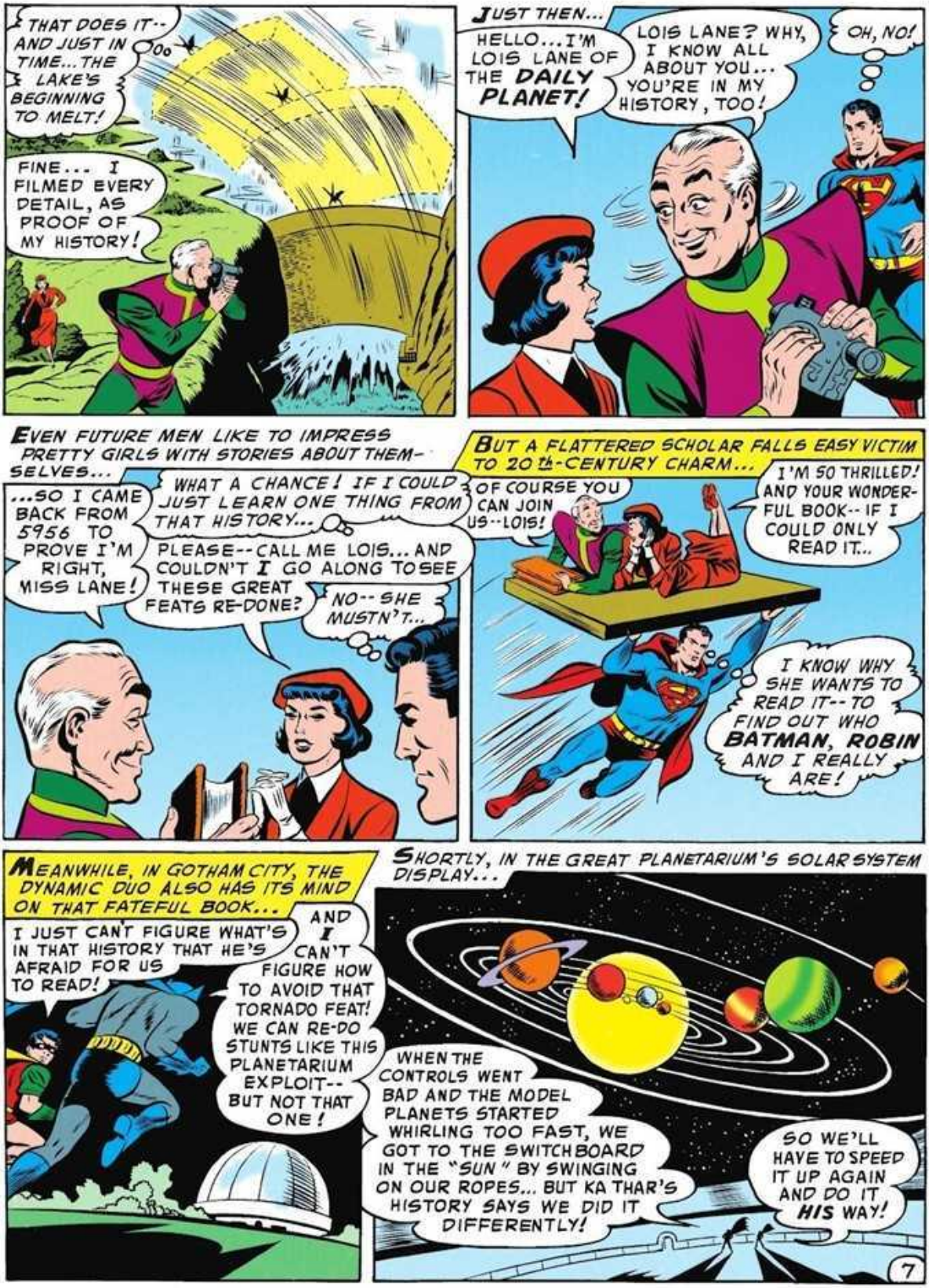

ONE FATEFUL MORNING, IN THE NEW ZOO THAT'S THE PRIDE OF METROPOLIS...
A WONDERFUL ZOO SUPERMAN BUILT-- FROM THESE SIDE-WALKS IN THE AIR, WE CAN LOOK DOWN AND SEE THE ANIMALS LIVING NATURALLY!
AND HE BROUGHT ALL THE RARE ANIMALS, TOO, FLYING THEM HERE AT SUPER SPEED! LOOK, THERE HE COMES NOW-- TO INSPECT HIS WORK, I SUPPOSE!
BUT THE MAN OF STEEL ASTOUNDS THE WATCHERS BY DOING THE UNEXPECTED..
WHY, HE'S TAKING ALL THE RARE ANIMALS AWAY!
BUT WHY--WHY SHOULD SUPERMAN UNDO THE GREAT THING HE DID FOR METROPOLIS?
WHY, INDEED? EVEN WHILE THAT MYSTERY ROCKS METROPOLIS, ON A DISTANT, LITTLE TROPICAL ISLAND...
I'LL NEED PLENTY OF BIG TREES-- I CAN SHAPE THEM INTO TIMBERS WITH MY HANDS!
IT'LL SOON BE FINISHED-- THEN I CAN GATHER UP THE ANIMALS! BUT I'LL NEED A BIG CAR!
AND A MYSTIFIED METROPOLIS IS STAGGERED EVEN MORE...
LOOK, SUPERMAN HAS BROUGHT THE ZOO ANIMALS BACK-- BUT THIS TIME, IN A GREAK ARK!
WHY WOULD HE UNDO WHAT HE DID? AND THEN DO IT AGAIN DIFFERENTLY? IT'S CRAZY-- HE MUST BE CRACKING UP!
AND IN THE DAILY PLANET OFFICES, EDITOR PERRY WHITE AND REPORTER LOIS LANE SHARE THAT AMAZEMENT!
WHY WOULD SUPERMAN DO SUCH A THING? IT'S UNPRECEDENTED!
NO--LOOK AT THIS TELETYPE FLASH! THE SAME THING JUST HAPPENED IN GOTHAM CITY!
2

IN GOTHAM CITY, THE INCREDIBLE HAS HAPPENED, TOO!
YES, ONE OF THEIR GREATEST STUNTS--IT WAS GOING TO CRASH INTO THE SEA--
LOOK, BATMAN AND ROBIN-- THEY'RE TAKING AWAY THAT ABANDONED PLANE THEY SAVED YESTERDAY!
"--BUT THEY SWOOPED DOWN ON THE ABANDONED PLANE BEFORE IT HIT THE WATER, AND--"
LOWER, ROBIN-- STEADY NOW-- THAT'S IT! I CAN GLIDE IT IN TO A SAFE LANDING!
ANOTHER MINUTE AND IT WOULD HAVE HIT THE SEA!
BUT TODAY, THE DYNAMIC DUO UNDO THAT GREAT FEAT OF YESTERDAY...
BUT LOOK, THEY DELIBERATELY TURNED THE PLANE LOOSE AND LET IT CRASH INTO THE OCEAN!
A BRILLIANT FEAT LIKE THAT-- AND NOW BATMAN UNDOES IT! WHY?
BUT, MOMENTS LATER, UNSEEN BY THE CROWD...
WE'RE GOING UNDERSEA-- FOLD BACK THE WINGS!
GOT IT, BATMAN! THE BATPLANE MAKES A SWELL SUBMARINE, THIS WAY!
AND PRESENTLY, BENEATH THE WATERS...
WE CAN TOW IT RIGHT UP ONTO THE BEACH, NOW WE HAVE A LINE ON IT!
BATMAN, LIKE SUPERMAN, UNDID A GREAT EXPLOIT AND DID IT AGAIN--DIFFERENTLY! ARE THEY BOTH INSANE?
THERE'S SURELY A BIG STORY BEHIND ALL THIS! LET ME GET IT! WITH CLARK KENT ON VACATION, I CAN GET A GREAT SCOOP!
YES, LOIS, THERE IS A TREMENDOUS STORY BEHIND THE APPARENTLY UNBALANCED BEHAVIOR OF SUPERMAN AND BATMAN...
3

...A STORY THAT BEGAN THE NIGHT BEFORE, WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN RETURNED TO THEIR HIDDEN BAT-CAVE...
AFTER TODAY, I CAN USE A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP! BUT--BATMAN... WHAT'S THAT QUEER BLUR IN THE AIR?
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT... AND THERE'S A FAINT HUMMING SOUND, TOO!
BEFORE THEIR STARTLED EYES OCCURRED AN INCREDIBLE MATERIALIZATION...
A MAN--A STRANGER--APPEARING IN THE BAT-CAVE FROM NOTHING! BUT HOW--?
BACK, ROBIN! THE FORCES THAT CAN DO THIS MAY BE DANGEROUS!
BUT, AN INSTANT LATER...
DON'T BE STARTLED, BATMAN... I'M KA THAR, GREATEST HISTORIAN OF THE YEAR 5956!
5956?... 4,000 YEARS FROM NOW? HE'S CRAZY!
BUT THE WAY HE APPEARED.. THAT COULD BE SOME FORM OF TIME-TRAVELLING MACHINE!
EXACTLY...IT'S A TIME-THRUST PROJECTOR! AND I'VE COME BACK TO 1956 ESPECIALLY TO SEE YOU AND YOUR FRIEND SUPERMAN! PLEASE SUMMON SUPERMAN AT ONCE!
BATMAN, IT CAN'T BE TRUE... OR CAN IT?
IT MUST BE! ER-- I'LL CALL SUPERMAN.
AND IN DISTANT METROPOLIS, WHERE REPORTER CLARK KENT SPOTTED THE URGENT SKY-SUMMONS...
HASTILY, THE SUPER-POWERFUL LIGHTS OF THE BATMOBILE WERE USED AS A SIGNAL...
THE TWO BEAMS WILL FOCUS A SINGLE SILHOUETTE-IMAGE ON THE HIGH CLOUDS, MILES FROM HERE!
THAT SIGNAL--IT'S FROM THE DIRECTION OF GOTHAM CITY! BATMAN MUST WANT ME... I'D BETTER GET DOWN THERE SUPER-FAST!
4


WITHIN MOMENTS, THE MIGHTIEST CHAMPIONS OF 1956 FACED A MAN FROM 5956...
BUT WHY SHOULD A HISTORIAN OF 4,000 YEARS FROM NOW COME BACK TO THIS TIME?
BECAUSE YOU TWO ARE THE SUBJECTS OF THIS, MY GREATEST BOOK--"THE HISTORY OF SUPERMAN AND BATMAN"! JEALOUS RIVAL HISTORIANS SAID IT'S INCORRECT--SO I CAME BACK TO PROVE I'M RIGHT!
BUT AFTER READING HIS WORK ALOUD TO THE THREE LAWMEN...
IT'S ALL TRUE, ISN'T IT?
NO, SOME DETAILS ARE WRONG--DISTORTED BY TIME! I DID EVERYTHING YOU SAY--BUT IN DIFFERENT WAYS!
YES, YOU'VE GOT ROBIN AND ME DOING THINGS INCORRECTLY, TOO!
WELL, I WON'T BECOME A LAUGHINGSTOCK IN 5956 BY ADMITTING I WAS WRONG! YOU THREE MUST DO THOSE FEATS OVER AGAIN, THE WAY MY HISTORY DESCRIBES!
HMM... THAT'S ONE WAY TO MAKE YOUR HISTORY TRUE... BUT WE'RE TOO BUSY TO RE-DO ALL THOSE STUNTS!
BUT YOU MUST HELP ME! REMEMBER, I'M HELPING YOU--BY NOT EXPOSING YOUR SECRET IDENTITIES--CLARK KENT, BRUCE WAYNE, AND DICK GRAYSON--TO THIS WORLD OF 1956!
:GULP: IT SEEMS FUTURE TIMES WILL KNOW OUR IDENTITIES, SUPERMAN! WE'D BETTER HELP HIM, OR HE'LL EXPOSE US TO THE PRESENT!
VERY WELL... WE HAVE NO CHOICE! LET'S SEE THAT HISTORY...
NO, I'LL TELL YOU WHAT TO DO... YOU MUST NEVER READ THIS HISTORY! THERE'S SOMETHING IN IT THAT YOU CAN'T BE PERMITTED TO KNOW!
FIRST, SUPERMAN, YOU'LL DELIVER ANIMALS TO METROPOLIS ZOO THE WAY I DESCRIBED... AND BATMAN MUST SAVE AN ABANDONED PLANE AS MY HISTORY SAYS!
BUT WHAT'S IN THAT HISTORY THAT WE MUSTN'T READ? IT'S BOUND IN LEAD, SO EVEN WITH MY X-RAY VISION I CAN'T READ IT!
5

WHATEVER SECRET IT HELD, THAT FUTURE "HISTORY" PROVED QUITE A PROBLEM FOR THE GREAT TRIO...
"YOU STOPPED THE TORNADO BY SPINNING OUTSIDE IT, WITH GREAT WIND-VANES, TO REVERSE ITS AIR CURRENTS!"
HIS HISTORY SAYS YOU BUILT A BARRIER TO ENCLOSE THE TORNADO--BUT HOW CAN WE RISK STARTING ANOTHER TORNADO, JUST TO PROVE HIS POINT?
WE CAN'T--YET, IF WE DON'T, HE MAY EXPOSE US!
YOU REMEMBER--BATMAN AND I SPOTTED ITS COURSE FROM THE BAT-PLANE AND CALLED ON YOU, SUPERMAN...
WE CAN'T RISK RE-DOING THE LAST THING ON HIS LIST--THE TORNADO THAT WOULD HAVE HIT BOTH GOTHAM CITY AND METROPOLIS!
AND THAT IS WHY THE MAN OF STEEL AND THE DYNAMIC DUO ARE NOW RE-DOING THEIR GREATEST FEATS...
MY HISTORY STATED YOU USED ONE GREAT SLAB OF STONE FOR THIS DAM, NOT MANY BLOCKS--SO PLEASE DO IT THAT WAY!
THIS I CAN DO--BUT WHEN IT COMES TO THAT TORNADO STUNT, THERE'LL BE TROUBLE!
UNKNOWN TO SUPERMAN, THERE'S MORE TROUBLE COMING--IN THE FORM OF LOIS LANE!
THAT TIP ABOUT SUPERMAN BEING HERE... I WAS RIGHT--HE'S GOING TO UNDO HIS FEAT, TOO! BUT WHO'S THAT QUEER MAN WITH HIM?
AND AS THE GIRL REPORTER WATCHES CURIOUSLY...
HITTING IT AT THE RIGHT LINE OF CLEAVAGE WILL PROVIDE A SINGLE STONE FOR THE DAM! NOW TO SWITCH DAMS WITHOUT THE WATER FLOODING OUT...
WHRAHH
A QUICK TRIP TO THE STRATOSPHERE, A SUPER-LUNGFUL OF ICE-COLD AIR--AND AN INSTANT LATER...
FREEZING THE WATER SOLID WILL GIVE ME A CHANCE TO SWITCH DAMS SAFELY!
6

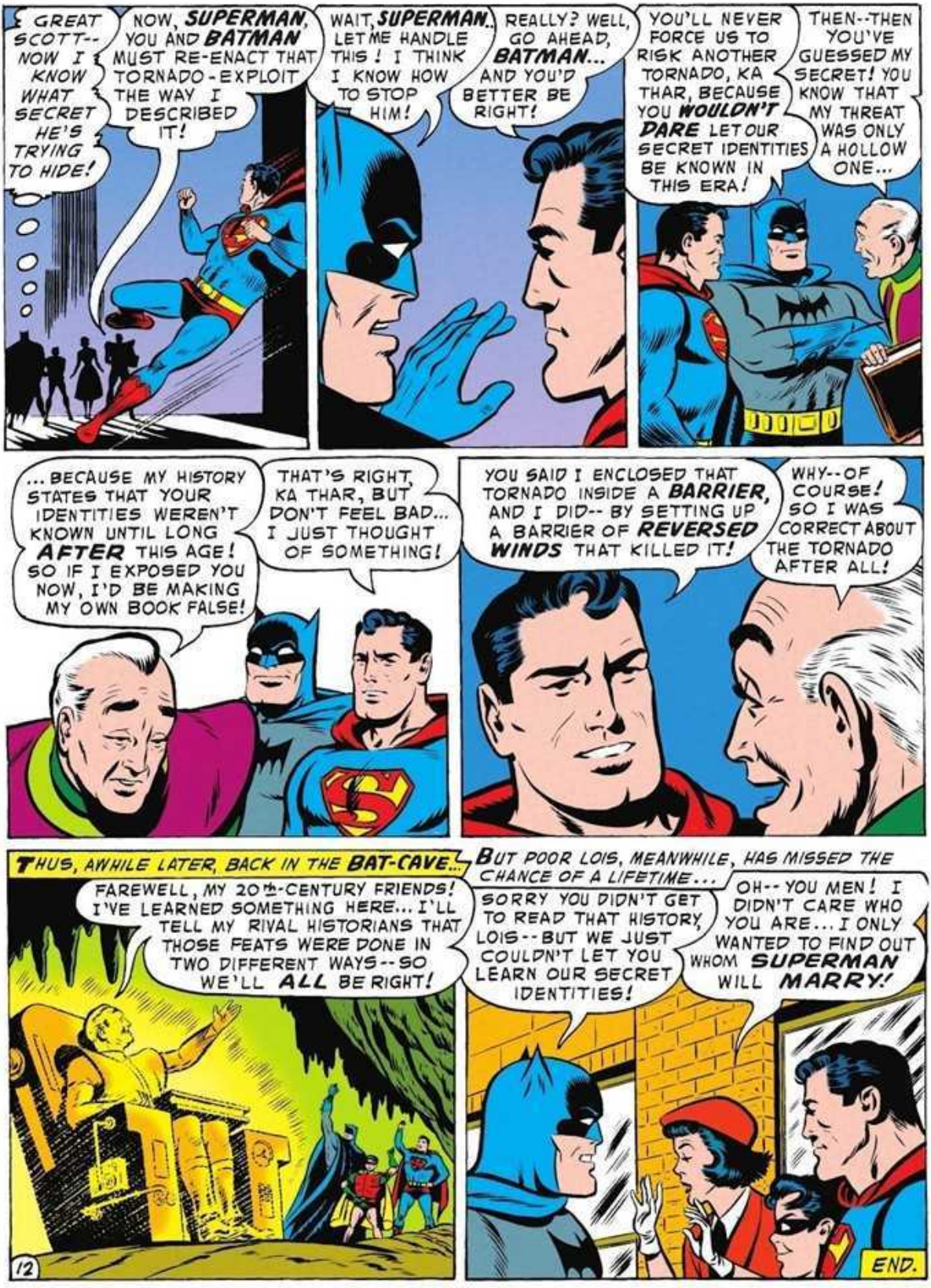

THAT DOES IT-- AND JUST IN TIME... THE LAKE'S BEGINNING TO MELT!
FINE... I FILMED EVERY DETAIL, AS PROOF OF MY HISTORY!
JUST THEN...
HELLO... I'M LOIS LANE OF THE DAILY PLANET!
LOIS LANE? WHY, I KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU... YOU'RE IN MY HISTORY, TOO!
OH, NO!
EVEN FUTURE MEN LIKE TO IMPRESS PRETTY GIRLS WITH STORIES ABOUT THEMSELVES...
...SO I CAME BACK FROM 5956 TO PROVE I'M RIGHT, MISS LANE!
WHAT A CHANCE! IF I COULD JUST LEARN ONE THING FROM THAT HISTORY...
PLEASE--CALL ME LOIS... AND COULDN'T I GO ALONG TO SEE THESE GREAT FEATS RE-DONE?
NO--SHE MUSTN'T...
BUT A FLATTERED SCHOLAR FALLS EASY VICTIM TO 20th-CENTURY CHARM...
OF COURSE YOU CAN JOIN US--LOIS!
I'M SO THRILLED! AND YOUR WONDERFUL BOOK--IF I COULD ONLY READ IT...
I KNOW WHY SHE WANTS TO READ IT--TO FIND OUT WHO BATMAN, ROBIN AND I REALLY ARE!
MEANWHILE, IN GOTHAM CITY, THE DYNAMIC DUO ALSO HAS ITS MIND ON THAT FATEFUL BOOK...
I JUST CAN'T FIGURE WHAT'S IN THAT HISTORY THAT HE'S AFRAID FOR US TO READ!
AND I CAN'T FIGURE HOW TO AVOID THAT TORNADO FEAT! WE CAN RE-DO STUNTS LIKE THIS PLANETARIUM EXPLOIT--BUT NOT THAT ONE!
SHORTLY, IN THE GREAT PLANETARIUM'S SOLAR SYSTEM DISPLAY...
WHEN THE CONTROLS WENT BAD AND THE MODEL PLANETS STARTED WHIRLING TOO FAST, WE GOT TO THE SWITCHBOARD IN THE "SUN" BY SWINGING ON OUR ROPES... BUT KA THAR'S HISTORY SAYS WE DID IT DIFFERENTLY!
SO WE'LL HAVE TO SPEED IT UP AGAIN AND DO IT HIS WAY!

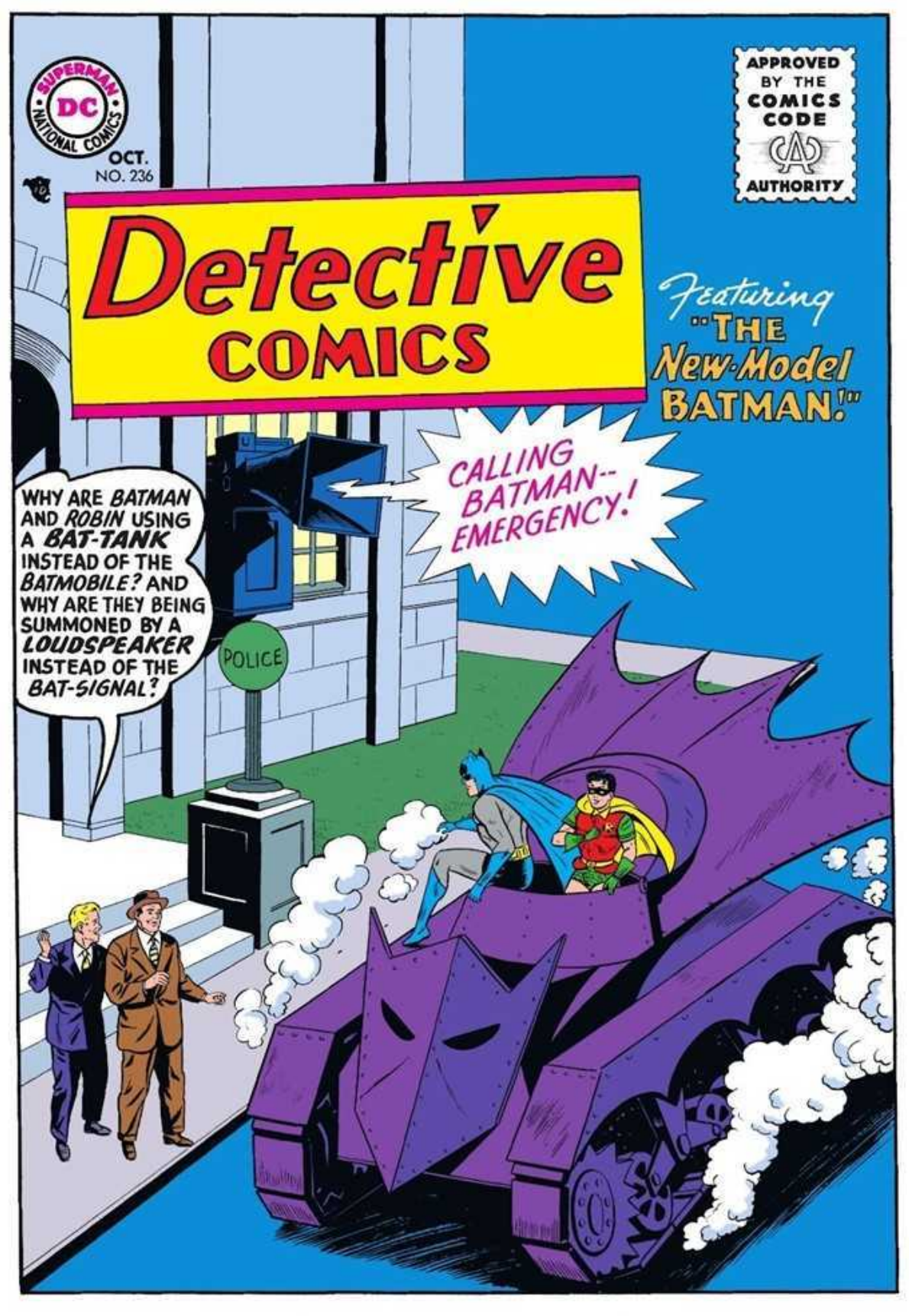
AND WHEN THE OTHERS ARRIVE...
IT MUST BE DARLING TO BE A GREAT HISTORIAN -- I'M SURE YOUR BOOK IS FASCINATING!
SUPERMAN, HOW COULD YOU LET LOIS LANE IN ON THIS? DON'T WE HAVE ENOUGH TROUBLE?
SHE HORNED IN, AS USUAL... AND SHE'S FLIRTING WITH KA THAR, TO GET A LOOK AT THAT BOOK AND LEARN OUR IDENTITIES!
OH, NO! THAT'S ALL WE'D NEED!
WE'VE GOT TO PREVENT IT!
THEN, AS THEY PROCEED WITH THEIR "NEW" FEAT...
NOW THAT YOU'VE SPEEDED UP THE SOLAR SYSTEM MODEL, YOU CAN STOP IT THE WAY MY HISTORY DESCRIBES... BY JUMPING FROM "PLANET" TO "PLANET"!
HMM... HE'S CAREFUL NEVER TO EXPOSE THE LAST PAGE OF HIS HISTORY! THAT MUST BE WHERE HIS BIG SECRET IS!
BATMAN FORGETS THE PROBLEM MOMENTARILY, AS HE AND ROBIN RE-DO A FEAT THE HARD WAY...
THAT'S IT... JUMP ONTO "PLUTO" AS IT COMES PAST!
I'LL HOLD YOUR BOOK WHILE YOU FILM THE SCENE, KA THAR!
NO, LOIS -- KEEP BACK! YOU... ER... MIGHT GET IN THE WAY OF ONE OF THE PLANETS!
THE SPINNING RINGS OF "SATURN" GIVE US AN EXTRA PUSH, TO REACH "JUPITER"!
JUST MADE IT! I'LL BE GLAD WHEN WE GET TO THE INNER MODELS... THEY'RE NOT SO FAR APART!
CAREFUL, BATMAN -- YOU NEARLY KICKED THE "MOON" OUT OF ITS ORBIT!
BUT THAT GETS US TO THE "SUN," AND THE SWITCHBOARD INSIDE IT!
EXCELLENT! THESE FILMS WILL VINDICATE ANOTHER PART OF MY HISTORY!
8

OH, IF I COULD ONLY READ A LITTLE OF YOUR WONDERFUL HISTORY...
NO TIME FOR THAT NOW! I HAVE TO RE-DO MY ORPHANS' OUTING FEAT FOR KA THAR, AND BATMAN MUST CAPTURE THAT MOB LEADER IN THE WAY THE HISTORY DESCRIBED!
SOON...
HAVE YOUR CAMERA READY, KA THAR--I'LL BE BACK!
GOTHAM CITY JAIL
ACTUALLY, I GAVE THE METROPOLIS ORPHANS AN OUTING IN A SUPER-TRAILER I BUILT--BUT KA THAR'S BOOK SAYS I FLEW THEM ON AN OUTING, SO I'LL HAVE TO DO IT THAT WAY!
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING IN THAT HISTORY I'D LIKE TO READ--IF I COULD JUST LOOK THROUGH YOUR GREAT WORK...
HERE COMES SUPERMAN NOW--HAVE TO KEEP MY CAMERA READY!
BUT THE MAN OF STEEL HAS DONE BOTH...
SUPERMAN MUST HAVE MISUNDERSTOOD ME... HE WAS TO FLY THE ORPHANS ON AN OUTING, NOT CARRY THEIR HOME!
WHAT A SUPER-WAY TO SEE GOTHAM CITY!
AND IT WAS FAST! NOW, IF BATMAN WILL TAKE OVER, BEFORE LOIS CAN GET AT THAT HISTORY...
9

GOTHAM CITY JAIL
BATMAN'S READY TO RE-DO HIS CAPTURE OF THAT GANG CHIEF-- SHARK SLANEY... BUT THEN COMES THE RE-ENACTMENT OF THAT TORNADO, AND WE CAN'T RISK THAT!
AH, BATMAN HAS RELEASED THAT CAPTURED CROOK, SO THAT HE CAN RECAPTURE HIM IN THE WAY MY HISTORY DESCRIBED!
GOTHAM CITY JAIL
BATMAN RELEASING A CRIMINAL, FOR ANY PURPOSE? IT'S INCREDIBLE--YET HE'S DONE IT!
PRESENTLY, IN A PENTHOUSE RENDEZVOUS, AS NIGHT FALLS...
WHY, IT'S SLANEY! HOW DID YOU GET OUT OF JAIL?
I'VE GOT WAYS! WHAT'S MORE, YOU GUYS SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN THERE WITH ME, SINCE YOU HELPED ME ON THAT BANK JOB!
AW, BATMAN DIDN'T HAVE ANY PROOF THAT WE HELPED YOU, SO HE COULDN'T TOUCH US! AND WE KEPT THE LOOT SAFE!
GOOD... BRING IT OUT AND WE'LL DIVIDE IT UP NOW!
BUT WHEN THEY REMOVE THE STOLEN CURRENCY FROM ITS HIDING PLACE...
LOOK... BATMAN! IF HE GRABS US WITH THIS LOOT, WE'LL BE CONVICTED, TOO! SHOOT HIM!
IN THAT VERY SAME INSTANT, HOWEVER...
WHO SWITCHED THE LIGHTS OUT-- OOF! SOMEONE SLUGGED ME!
OUCH-- ME, TOO! BATMAN'S IN HERE WITH US!

MINUTES LATER, AS THE POLICE TAKE OVER...
WH-WHERE'S SLANEY?
BATMAN'S CHASING HIM! BUT HE GAVE US THE WORD, AS HE PASSED US IN THE STREET, THAT WE'D FIND YOU HERE!
WHILE A FEW BLOCKS AWAY...
I'D NEVER MAKE THE CAPTURE THIS WAY MYSELF-- BUT IT'S THE WAY KA THAR'S HISTORY TOLD IT!
BUT BATMAN RELEASED A CRIMINAL FOR THIS STUNT... I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
A FINE FILM TO PROVE MY HISTORY'S ACCOUNT!
AND LOIS IS RIGHT--FOR SHORTLY AFTERWARD, AROUND A CORNER...
OF COURSE, I COULDN'T REALLY RELEASE SLANEY-- EVEN FOR THIS STUNT-- BUT WITH MAKE-UP, I MADE A PRETTY GOOD THUG! AND YOU, ROBIN, MADE A SWELL BATMAN!
THIS PADDED-OUT SUIT WAS A LITTLE AWKWARD TO WEAR-- BUT IT WORKED.
AND WE DID NAIL SLANEY'S CONFEDERATES WITH THEIR LOOT THAT WAY... BUT NOW, WHAT ABOUT THAT TORNADO-EXPLOIT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO RE-ENACT?
WE CAN'T DO IT, ROBIN! IF KA THAR WANTS TO EXPOSE OUR IDENTITIES, WE'RE SIMPLY OUT OF LUCK!
CAN'T YOU JUST LET ME HAVE ONE LITTLE PEEP INTO YOUR BOOK?
NO, I CAN'T! I KNOW WHAT YOU WANT TO LEARN, BUT THAT SECRET CAN'T BE REVEALED TO ANYONE IN THIS AGE!
WHAT--?
11


GREAT SCOTT--NOW I KNOW WHAT SECRET HE'S TRYING TO HIDE!
NOW, SUPERMAN, YOU AND BATMAN MUST RE-ENACT THAT TORNADO-EXPLOIT THE WAY I DESCRIBED IT!
WAIT, SUPERMAN.. LET ME HANDLE THIS! I THINK I KNOW HOW TO STOP HIM!
REALLY? WELL, GO AHEAD, BATMAN... AND YOU'D BETTER BE RIGHT!
YOU'LL NEVER FORCE US TO RISK ANOTHER TORNADO, KA THAR, BECAUSE YOU WOULDN'T DARE LET OUR SECRET IDENTITIES BE KNOWN IN THIS ERA!
THEN--THEN YOU'VE GUESSED MY SECRET! YOU KNOW THAT MY THREAT WAS ONLY A HOLLOW ONE...
...BECAUSE MY HISTORY STATES THAT YOUR IDENTITIES WEREN'T KNOWN UNTIL LONG AFTER THIS AGE! SO IF I EXPOSED YOU NOW, I'D BE MAKING MY OWN BOOK FALSE!
THAT'S RIGHT, KA THAR, BUT DON'T FEEL BAD... I JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHING!
YOU SAID I ENCLOSED THAT TORNADO INSIDE A BARRIER, AND I DID-- BY SETTING UP A BARRIER OF REVERSED WINDS THAT KILLED IT!
WHY--OF COURSE! SO I WAS CORRECT ABOUT THE TORNADO AFTER ALL!
THUS, AWHILE LATER, BACK IN THE BAT-CAVE...
FAREWELL, MY 20th-CENTURY FRIENDS! I'VE LEARNED SOMETHING HERE... I'LL TELL MY RIVAL HISTORIANS THAT THOSE FEATS WERE DONE IN TWO DIFFERENT WAYS--SO WE'LL ALL BE RIGHT!
BUT POOR LOIS, MEANWHILE, HAS MISSED THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME...
SORRY YOU DIDN'T GET TO READ THAT HISTORY, LOIS--BUT WE JUST COULDN'T LET YOU LEARN OUR SECRET IDENTITIES!
OH--YOU MEN! I DIDN'T CARE WHO YOU ARE... I ONLY WANTED TO FIND OUT WHOM SUPERMAN WILL MARRY!
END.
12


SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
OCT.
NO. 236
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
Detective COMICS
Featuring "THE New-Model BATMAN!"
CALLING BATMAN-- EMERGENCY!
WHY ARE BATMAN AND ROBIN USING A BAT-TANK INSTEAD OF THE BATMOBILE? AND WHY ARE THEY BEING SUMMONED BY A LOUDSPEAKER INSTEAD OF THE BAT-SIGNAL?
POLICE

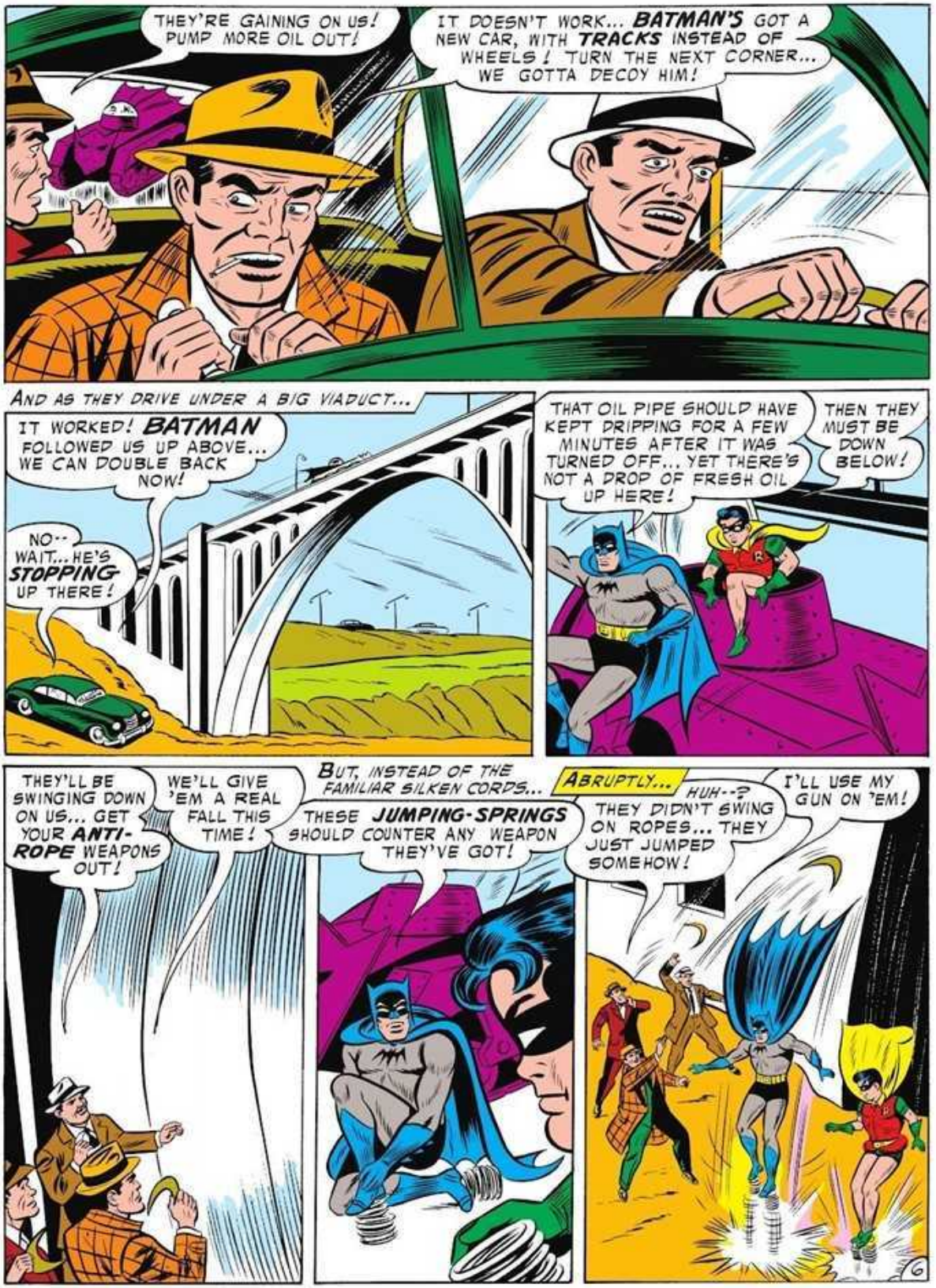
BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-
IN THEIR UNCEASING CAMPAIGN AGAINST LAWBREAKERS, BATMAN HAS USED NOT ONLY HIS SUPERB ACROBATIC SKILL AND DEEP KNOWLEDGE OF DETECTIVE SCIENCE, BUT ALSO HIS EXPERTLY DESIGNED EQUIPMENT. NOW, SUDDENLY, THE CAPED LAWMAN MUST DISCARD ALL HIS TIME-TRIED WEAPONS, AND BECOME...
THE NEW-MODEL BATMAN
BATMAN, ALL OUR EQUIPMENT HAS BECOME A DANGER TO US NOW!
YES, OUR METHODS OF CRIME-FIGHTING MUST BE CHANGED COMPLETELY!
R
BOB KANE

IN A CELL IN STATE PRISON, THE YEARS PASS SLOWLY...
MONTHS MORE BEFORE I'M RELEASED-- AND IT WAS BATMAN WHO SENT ME HERE! BUT I'VE SPENT THIS TIME WELL-- PREPARING WEAPONS AGAINST HIM!
AND WHEN, FOLLOWING HIS RELEASE, EX-SCIENTIST WALLACE WALEY RETURNS TO GOTHAM CITY...
SURE, WALEY, BATMAN'S AS BIG A HEADACHE TO US AS EVER... BUT WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT?
I'VE INVENTED DEFENSES AGAINST ALL OF BATMAN'S METHODS, WHICH I'LL SELL YOU-- EXCEPT FOR ONE SUPER ANTI-BATMAN WEAPON, WHICH I'M SAVING TO USE MYSELF!
AND AS MOB-LEADERS EAGERLY PURCHASE THE NEW ANTI-BATMAN INVENTIONS...
MY ANTI-ROPE DEFENSE WILL COST YOU $5,000! SO WILL MY ANTI-BAT-MOBILE AND ANTI-BAT-SIGNAL INVENTIONS!
BUT WHAT SUPER-GIMMICK IS WALEY SAVING FOR HIMSELF? IT MUST REALLY BE SOME-THING!
THAT NIGHT, IN THE HOME OF WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...
BRUCE, LOOK... THE BAT-SIGNAL, POINTING WESTWARD!
THE POLICE ARE WARNING US OF TROUBLE IN WEST GOTHAM CITY!
SWIFTLY, THEY DON A PAIR OF COLORFUL COSTUMES...
ALL READY? LET'S GO! THERE'S WORK FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN!
BUT AS THE BATMOBILE CARRIES THEM SWIFTLY TOWARD THEIR DESTINATION...
WAIT A MINUTE... THAT BAT-SIGNAL ISN'T COMING FROM POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS, BUT FROM A NEARBY ROOF!
SOMEHOW IT'S BEING REFLECTED, TO SEND US THE WRONG WAY! SO WE'LL HEAD IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION AND SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!
25

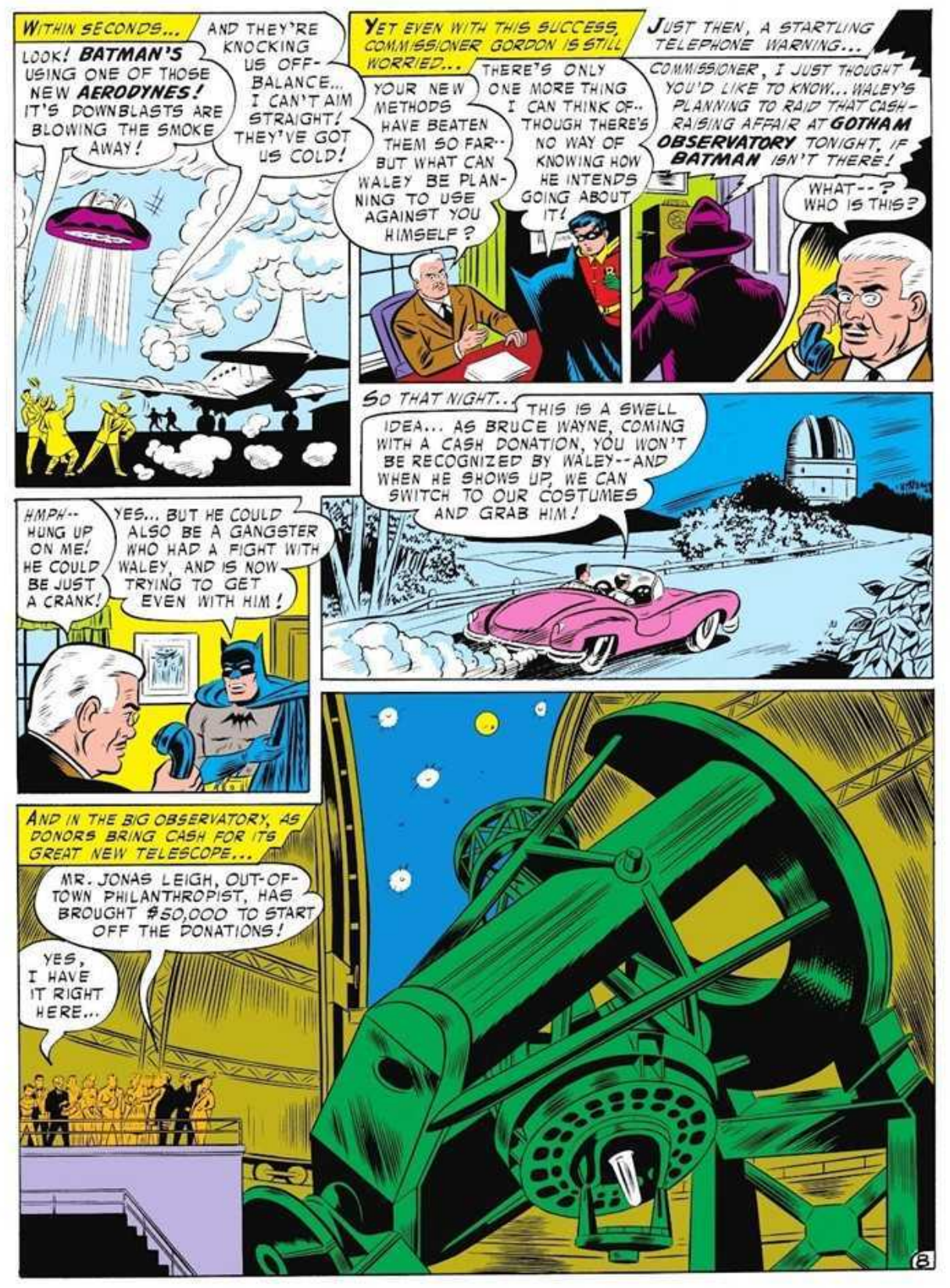
MINUTES LATER, FROM A HIGH VANTAGE POINT...
THAT WAREHOUSE ALARM ALERTED THE POLICE--AND THERE GO THE THIEVES OVER THE ROOFTOPS!
WE CAN SWING DOWN FAST ON OUR ROPES!
CLANG CLANG
BUT ANOTHER SURPRISE AWAITS THE DYNAMIC DUO, AS...
LOOK! BATMAN AND ROBIN! THE REVERSED BAT-SIGNAL DIDN'T DECOY THEM!
USE YOUR ANTI-ROPE WEAPON!
NEXT INSTANT...
WHAT--? KNIFE-EDGED BOOMERANGS, TO CUT OUR ROPES! ONLY ONE CHANCE...
LET GO, ROBIN--FAST!
AS THE BOY WONDER INSTINCTIVELY OBEYS...
THE CANVAS AWNING BROKE OUR FALL!
YES... IF WE'D HESITATED A SECOND LONGER, THEIR NEW WEAPONS WOULD'VE CUT OUR ROPES AND SENT US HURTLING OUT ONTO THE PAVEMENT!
BY THE TIME THE PAIR REACHES THE STREET...
THEY GOT AWAY IN THEIR CAR--BUT WE CAN STILL CATCH THEM IN THE BATMOBILE!
BUT WHEN THEY OVERTAKE THEIR QUARRY...
THOSE PIPES IN THEIR CAR... THEY'RE SPRAYING SOMETHING BLACK!
OIL! HOLD TIGHT, ROBIN... WE'RE SKIDDING!
MAIL
3

AS EXPERT DRIVING BRINGS THE BATMOBILE SAFELY TO A STOP...
THEY HAD AN ANTI-BATMOBILE GADGET READY, AND IT LET THEM GET AWAY!
THERE'S DEFINITELY AN ORGANIZED NEW SCHEME AIMED AT US! WE'D BETTER SEE THE COMMISSIONER...
SHORTLY, ON THE ROOF OF POLICE HEADQUARTERS.
SO THAT'S HOW THE BAT-SIGNAL WAS REVERSED! SOMEONE HAD THAT METAL REFLECTOR ALL SET TO STEER US WRONG!
YES-- AND I THINK THIS ALL ADDS UP TO BAD NEWS FOR YOU TWO!
DOWN IN COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...
UNDERWORLD RUMORS SAY THAT ANTI-BATMAN WEAPONS ARE BEING SOLD BY SOMEONE--AND THAT HE'S RESERVING A SUPER-WEAPON TO USE HIMSELF!
SUCH GIMMICKS MUST BE THE WORK OF A CUNNING SCIENTIST WHO HAS A TERRIFIC HATRED FOR ME!
WALLACE WALEY, WHO WAS RELEASED RECENTLY, FITS THAT DESCRIPTION! BUT I WONDER WHAT WEAPON HE'S RESERVING FOR US?
I DON'T KNOW-- BUT IF HE'S FIGURED WAYS TO STRIKE AT OUR USUAL METHODS, WE'LL HAVE TO UNDERGO A COMPLETE CHANGE!
IT'S A TREMENDOUS PROBLEM THE DUO FACES UPON RETURNING TO THE BAT-CAVE...
OUR USUAL EQUIPMENT MUST BE REPLACED, OR THOSE ANTI-BATMAN WEAPONS WILL STOP US EVERY TIME!
WE CAN DO IT... BUT I WISH WE KNEW WHAT THE SUPER-WEAPON WAS, TOO!
HOURS LATER...
THIS NEW EQUIPMENT SHOULD CATCH THEM OFF-GUARD... AND I'VE ALREADY ARRANGED FOR THE NEW BAT-SIGNAL!
LISTEN-- THERE IT GOES NOW!
4

THE STRANGEST BAT-SIGNAL IN HISTORY STARTLES A CITY WITH ITS SUMMONS...
WHY--THAT'S A HUGE SPEAKING SIGNAL TO CALL BATMAN!
WONDER WHY THE CHANGE?
CALLING BATMAN! CALLING BATMAN!
AND AS THE DUO SWIFTLY ANSWERS THE SUMMONS...
BATMAN! WHAT'S THAT VEHICLE YOU'RE DRIVING?
THE BAT-TRACK, COMMISSIONER! ITS CATERPILLAR TREADS CAN'T BE SKIDDED... AND IT CAN GO ALMOST AS FAST AS THE BATMOBILE!
GOOD... BECAUSE A BEAT POLICEMAN JUST SPOTTED THAT GETAWAY CAR IN THE SOUTH RIVER AREA!
WE'RE ON OUR WAY!
POLICE
AND AS THE NEW BAT-TRACK JOINS A DRAGNET OF POLICE CARS...
THERE THEY GO-- CALL THE OTHER CARS!
I CAN'T... SOMETHING'S JAMMING OUR RADIO!
P.D.
BUT THE KEEN EYES OF BATMAN HAVE ALREADY SPOTTED THE CROOKS' VEHICLE...
THAT POLICE CAR IS ALMOST UP TO THEM!
BUT THEY'LL PROBABLY USE THEIR ANTI-BATMOBILE GADGET...
P.D.
SURE ENOUGH, AS A SUDDEN OIL-SLICK SPREADS BEHIND THE ESCAPING CAR...
THEY THREW OFF THE POLICE CAR!
BUT NOT US! HOLD ON, ROBIN...
P.D.
5


THEY'RE GAINING ON US! PUMP MORE OIL OUT!
IT DOESN'T WORK... BATMAN'S GOT A NEW CAR, WITH TRACKS INSTEAD OF WHEELS! TURN THE NEXT CORNER... WE GOTTA DECOY HIM!
AND AS THEY DRIVE UNDER A BIG VIADUCT...
IT WORKED! BATMAN FOLLOWED US UP ABOVE... WE CAN DOUBLE BACK NOW!
NO-- WAIT... HE'S STOPPING UP THERE!
THAT OIL PIPE SHOULD HAVE KEPT DRIPPING FOR A FEW MINUTES AFTER IT WAS TURNED OFF... YET THERE'S NOT A DROP OF FRESH OIL UP HERE!
THEN THEY MUST BE DOWN BELOW!
THEY'LL BE SWINGING DOWN ON US... GET YOUR ANTI-ROPE WEAPONS OUT!
WE'LL GIVE 'EM A REAL FALL THIS TIME!
BUT, INSTEAD OF THE FAMILIAR SILKEN CORDS...
THESE JUMPING-SPRINGS SHOULD COUNTER ANY WEAPON THEY'VE GOT!
ABRUPTLY...
HUH--? THEY DIDN'T SWING ON ROPES... THEY JUST JUMPED SOMEHOW!
I'LL USE MY GUN ON 'EM!
6

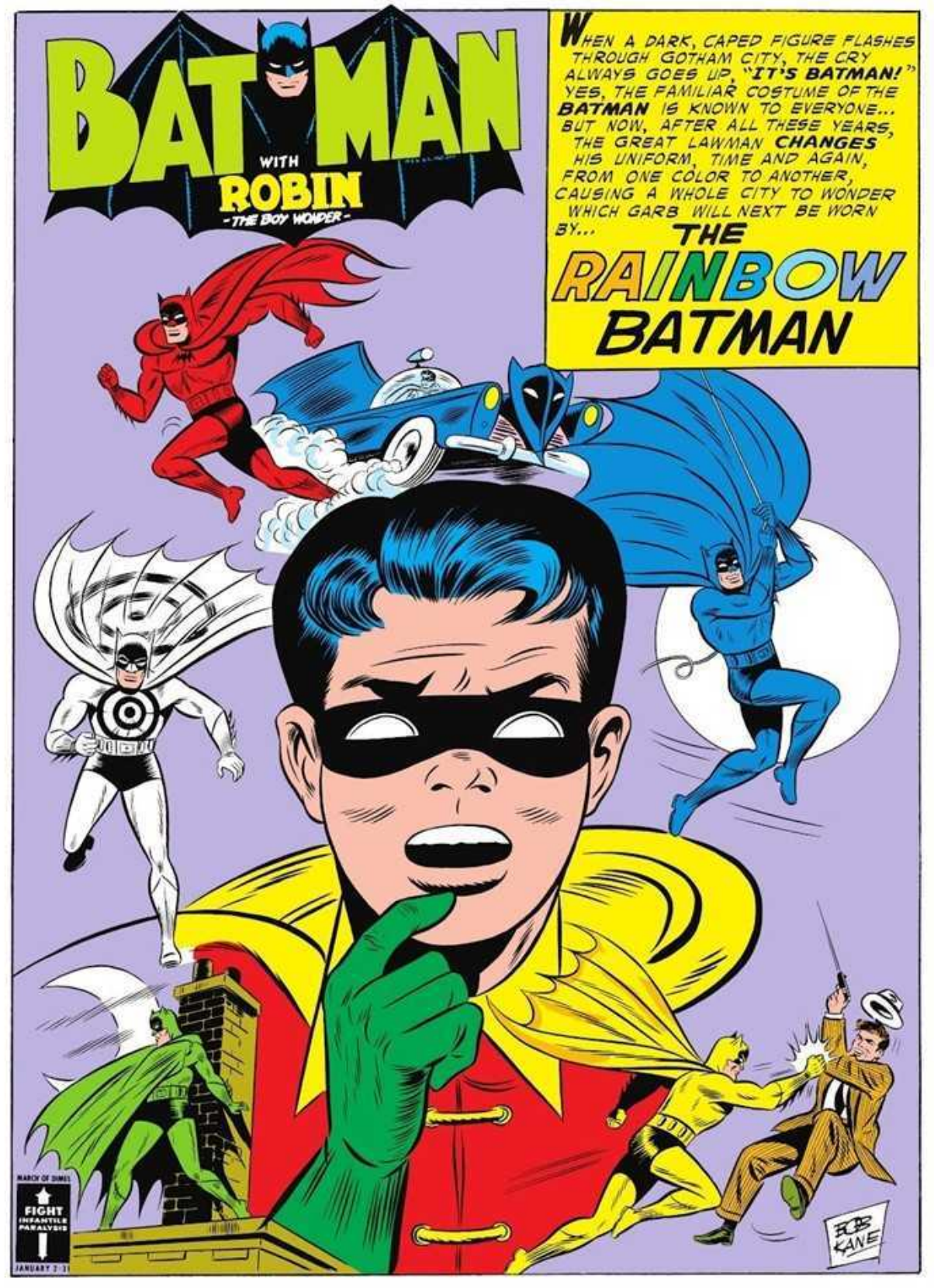
BUT AS THE CORNERED CROOK RAISES HIS WEAPON...
OW! THEY'RE LIKE JUMPING-JACKS!
PRESENTLY, WHEN THE POLICE ARRIVE...
IT WAS WALLACE WALEY WHO SOLD YOU THE ANTI-BATMAN GADGETS, WASN'T IT? WHERE IS HE?
YOU'LL FIND OUT WHEN HE USES THE SUPER-STUNT HE'S GOT FIGURED FOR YOU!
P.D
MEANWHILE, IN WALEY'S HIDEOUT...
SURE, WE WANT TO GRAB THAT PLATINUM SHIPMENT COMING IN BY AIRLINER... BUT THE BAT-PLANE'S SURE TO BE WATCHING THE AIRPORT WHEN IT ARRIVES!
DON'T WORRY... I'VE GOT A WEAPON THAT'LL MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE BAT-PLANE TO INTERFERE!
SO NEXT DAY, AS A TREASURE-LADEN PLANE LANDS AT GOTHAM AIRPORT...
WHEN WE TURN LOOSE OUR SMOKE-SCREEN...
...THE BAT-PLANE WON'T DARE LAND, EVEN ON ITS HELICOPTERS, FOR FEAR OF HITTING THE PLANE!
YEAH... AND WE CAN GRAB THE PLATINUM WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT BATMAN COMING DOWN TO STOP US!
BUT THE MASKED LAWMEN HAVE ALREADY PREPARED THEMSELVES FOR ANY SUCH EMERGENCY...
THIS NEW AERODYNE IS SOMETHING! NO PROPELLERS, NO WINGS-- AND ITS DOWNWARD AIR-JETS KEEP IT ALOFT AND MOVING FAST!
GOOD THING WE USED IT, TOO! THEY'VE TURNED LOOSE A SMOKESCREEN TO COVER A ROBBERY!
7


WITHIN SECONDS...
LOOK! BATMAN'S USING ONE OF THOSE NEW AERODYNES! IT'S DOWNBLASTS ARE BLOWING THE SMOKE AWAY!
AND THEY'RE KNOCKING US OFF-BALANCE... I CAN'T AIM STRAIGHT! THEY'VE GOT US COLD!
YET EVEN WITH THIS SUCCESS, COMMISSIONER GORDON IS STILL WORRIED...
YOUR NEW METHODS HAVE BEATEN THEM SO FAR-- BUT WHAT CAN WALEY BE PLANNING TO USE AGAINST YOU HIMSELF?
THERE'S ONLY ONE MORE THING I CAN THINK OF-- THOUGH THERE'S NO WAY OF KNOWING HOW HE INTENDS GOING ABOUT IT!
JUST THEN, A STARTLING TELEPHONE WARNING...
COMMISSIONER, I JUST THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW... WALEY'S PLANNING TO RAID THAT CASH-RAISING AFFAIR AT GOTHAM OBSERVATORY TONIGHT, IF BATMAN ISN'T THERE!
WHAT--? WHO IS THIS?
SO THAT NIGHT..
THIS IS A SWELL IDEA... AS BRUCE WAYNE, COMING WITH A CASH DONATION, YOU WON'T BE RECOGNIZED BY WALEY--AND WHEN HE SHOWS UP, WE CAN SWITCH TO OUR COSTUMES AND GRAB HIM!
HMPH-- HUNG UP ON ME! HE COULD BE JUST A CRANK!
YES... BUT HE COULD ALSO BE A GANGSTER WHO HAD A FIGHT WITH WALEY, AND IS NOW TRYING TO GET EVEN WITH HIM!
AND IN THE BIG OBSERVATORY, AS DONORS BRING CASH FOR ITS GREAT NEW TELESCOPE...
MR. JONAS LEIGH, OUT-OF-TOWN PHILANTHROPIST, HAS BROUGHT $50,000 TO START OFF THE DONATIONS!
YES, I HAVE IT RIGHT HERE...
8

WHAT--? MY $50,000 HAS BEEN STOLEN SINCE I ARRIVED! THERE'S A THIEF HERE!
GUARDS! LET NO ONE LEAVE--AND SEARCH EVERYONE THOROUGHLY!
AND WHEN IT'S BRUCE AND DICK'S TURN TO BE SEARCHED...
NOTHING ON MR. WAYNE OR HIS WARD!
COME ON, DICK--WE'RE FREE TO LEAVE NOW!
ONCE OUTSIDE, HOWEVER...
I FIGURED THAT FAKE PHONE-TIPOFF WAS JUST BAIT TO GET US TO COME HERE IN OUR EVERYDAY IDENTITIES! IF WE'D WORN OUR COSTUMES UNDER OUR CLOTHES, AS WE USUALLY DO, IT WOULD HAVE EXPOSED US!
SO THAT'S WHY YOU DECIDED TO CARRY SPECIAL HIDDEN COSTUMES INSTEAD!
FROM THEIR HOLLOW BOOT-HEELS, THEY BRING FORTH THIN, COMPACT, COLLAPSIBLE COSTUMES...
THEN WALEY WAS STRIKING AT OUR IDENTITIES IN HIS BIG ANTI-BATMAN GAG! BUT HOW COULD HE BE SURE WE'D BE SEARCHED?
THERE'S ONLY ONE ANSWER TO THAT--AND AS SOON AS WE SWITCH, I'LL SHOW YOU!
MOMENTS LATER...
THE MAN WHO FAKED A ROBBERY HERE, TO MAKE SURE WE'D BE SEARCHED AND EXPOSED, IS REALLY WALEY--IN DISGUISE!
YOU'RE NOT TAKING ME, BATMAN...
...BECAUSE IF YOU TAKE ONE MORE STEP, I'LL SMASH THE BIG TELESCOPE MIRROR!
BATMAN, LET HIM GO! BETTER THAT THAN TO WRECK THE GREAT MIRROR, WHICH TOOK YEARS TO CONSTRUCT!
9

AND DON'T THINK YOU CAN GRAB ME AS SOON AS I LEAVE, BECAUSE I'M GOING OUT THROUGH THE DOME! I CAN STILL SMASH THE MIRROR IF YOU TRY TO FOLLOW ME!
I'M NOT STOPPING YOU...
...BUT MY NEW BAT-FLASH RING, MAGNIFIED 1,000 TIMES BRIGHTER BY THE MIRROR, SHOULD DO THE TRICK!
HUH--? I'M DAZZLED-- CAN'T SEE...
DURING THAT MOMENT OF BLINDNESS, BATMAN MOVES SWIFTLY...
AS SOON AS I REGAIN MY SIGHT, I'LL THROW THIS WRENCH AT THE MIRROR!
YOU WON'T GET A CHANCE TO, WALEY...
...BECAUSE I'VE GOT THE WRENCH NOW!
HELP! I'M FALLING! BUT I'LL TAKE YOU WITH ME, BATMAN!
NO... I'LL TAKE YOU WITH ME-- USING MY NEW CAPE-PARACHUTE!
AND SO, WITH THE CRIMINAL SCIENTIST BACK IN JAIL...
YES, IT'S GOOD TO GET BACK TO OUR OLD WAYS-- THOUGH WE KEPT OUR "NEW-MODEL" EQUIPMENT FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE USE, TOO!
THE "OLD-MODEL" BATMAN WILL ALWAYS BE GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME!
THE END
10

SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
ALL NEW STORIES
MAR. NO. 241
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
10¢
Detective COMICS
Featuring "The RAINBOW BATMAN!"
BUT, BATMAN, LAST NIGHT YOU WORE THE GREEN COSTUME -- AND TONIGHT YOU'RE WEARING THE RED.' WHY?
I MUST, ROBIN-- I MUST WEAR A DIFFERENT-COLORED BATMAN COSTUME EACH NIGHT.'


BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-
WHEN A DARK, CAPED FIGURE FLASHES THROUGH GOTHAM CITY, THE CRY ALWAYS GOES UP, "IT'S BATMAN!" YES, THE FAMILIAR COSTUME OF THE BATMAN IS KNOWN TO EVERYONE... BUT NOW, AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, THE GREAT LAWMAN CHANGES HIS UNIFORM, TIME AND AGAIN, FROM ONE COLOR TO ANOTHER, CAUSING A WHOLE CITY TO WONDER WHICH GARB WILL NEXT BE WORN BY...
THE RAINBOW BATMAN
MARCH OF DIMES
FIGHT INFANTILE PARALYSIS
1
JANUARY
BOB KANE

ONE MORNING, AS DICK GRAYSON -- SECRETLY ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER -- STROLLS ALONG A BUSY THOROUGHFARE...
HELP! THIEVES! THEY'RE GETTING AWAY!
OH, OH... MUST FIND SOME PLACE TO SWITCH TO ROBIN!
BUT A MOMENT LATER, AS THE GETAWAY CAR COMES ROARING DOWN THE STREET...
LOOK! THAT LITTLE GIRL!
WHAT--? NO TIME TO CHANGE! GOT TO RESCUE THAT YOUNGSTER!
WITH PERFECT GRACE AND TIMING, THE BOY WONDER FLASHES INTO ACTION...
NICE WORK, SON! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I--I'M NOT SURE... I CRACKED MY ELBOW AGAINST THIS LAMP-POST!
SHORTLY, WHEN A DOCTOR ARRIVES...
THE ARM'S NOT BROKEN--BUT YOU'LL BE UNABLE TO USE IT FOR A WEEK OR SO!
GOSH... THAT'S TOO BAD!
AND AS REPORTERS REACH THE SCENE...
YES, THOSE THIEVES STOLE ONE OF OUR NEWEST PORTABLE TV CAMERAS, -- THE ONES USED FOR BROADCASTING SPECIAL EVENTS!
I SAW THEIR FACES, AND COULD IDENTIFY THEM! MUST GET HOME AND TELL BATMAN!
2

AWHILE LATER, IN THE MANSION OF DICK'S GUARDIAN, WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE, WHO IS REALLY THE FAMED BATMAN...
...AND THE THIEVES, WHO STOLE A VALUABLE CAMERA, WOULD HAVE RUN DOWN A CHILD BUT FOR A YOUTHFUL HERO, DICK GRAYSON! HE LOST THE USE OF HIS LEFT ARM TEMPORARILY, BUT SAVED A LIFE!
IT WASN'T AS BIG A FEAT AS ALL THAT! MY ARM WILL BE ALL RIGHT IN A LITTLE WHILE!
BUT WHY SHOULD ANYONE STEAL A PORTABLE TV CAMERA? THEY'D HAVE NO USE FOR IT-- AND COULDN'T SELL IT! THERE MUST BE SOME OTHER MOTIVE!
MAYBE I CAN SPOT THOSE CROOKS IN OUR CRIME FILE...
BUT, DOWN IN THEIR SECRET BAT-CAVE...
NO, THEIR PICTURES AREN'T IN OUR FILE... WE HAVEN'T ANY RECORD OF THEM!
I CAN ONLY SEE ONE MOTIVE FOR STEALING THAT CAMERA... AS PREPARATION FOR SOME BIG CRIME, TO BE STAGED WHERE TV CREWS WILL BE WORKING!
AS THE PAIR SWITCHES TO BATMAN AND ROBIN...
YOU MEAN--THEY INTEND TO DISGUISE THEMSELVES AS TV CAMERAMEN SO THEY CAN GET CLOSE TO SOMETHING VALUABLE?
THAT'S WHAT I SUSPECT-- AND, FROM NOW ON, WE'RE GOING TO WATCH EVERY BIG EVENT COVERED BY TELEVISION! YOU CAN IDENTIFY THOSE CROOKS, IF THEY TURN UP!
SWIFTLY, BATMAN RELATES A UNIQUE STRATEGY...
BUT--YOU'VE NEVER DONE ANYTHING LIKE THAT BEFORE!
IN THIS CASE, IT'S NECESSARY! WE'LL HAVE TO WORK FAST, BECAUSE TOMORROW IS WHEN THE BIG OFFICIAL WELCOME TO THE KING OF ZORONIA TAKES PLACE-- AND TV MEN WILL BE THERE!
SO NEXT DAY, AT THE SCENE OF A BIG TICKER-TAPE RECEPTION...
LOOK... THERE'S BATMAN AND ROBIN! BUT--WHAT'S HAPPENED TO BATMAN?
I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM LOOKING LIKE THAT BEFORE!
3

HE'S WEARING A RED COSTUME... BUT WHY?
I'LL CHECK THE TV CAMERAMEN IN THAT CAR, ROBIN-- WHILE YOU WATCH EVERY FACE FOR THE CROOKS YOU SAW!
HEY, LOOK AT BATMAN! A RED COSTUME-- AND HE'S JUMPING INTO OUR CAR!
JUST TO CHECK YOUR CAMERAS-- A SAFETY PRECAUTION!
AND, DURING AN OFFICIAL WELCOME, ALL EYES FOCUS NOT ON THE GUEST, BUT ON BATMAN...
THE THIEVES AREN'T ANYWHERE IN THE CROWD, BATMAN!
AND THE TV CAMERAMEN, HERE, ALL HAVE PROPER CREDENTIALS-- SO THIS ISN'T WHERE THEY PLAN TO STRIKE! WHEN THE WELCOME IS OVER, WE CAN LEAVE!
AFTERWARD...
WHY WOULD BATMAN, ALL OF A SUDDEN, WEAR A RED COSTUME?
HE MUST HAVE SOME REASON--BUT I CAN'T FIGURE IT!
THE ANSWER COMES A FEW MINUTES LATER, AS THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTERS RACE TO ANSWER THE URGENT SUMMONS...
AND, LATER THAT DAY, WHEN A FAMILIAR IMAGE FLASHES IN THE SKY...
THE BAT-SIGNAL! POLICE HEADQUARTERS IS CALLING BATMAN!
WONDER IF HE'LL WEAR THAT RED COSTUME AGAIN?
WITH THE SPECIAL CONTROLS WE FITTED TO THE BAT-MOBILE, I CAN DRIVE WITH MY RIGHT HAND ALONE!
WHY, BATMAN'S WEARING A BLUE COSTUME NOW!
4

SOON, WHERE POLICE AND FIRE OFFICIALS FACE A TERRIBLE DANGER...
THAT EXPLOSIVES TRUCK IS AFIRE! IF IT GOES UP, IT'LL BLAST WHOLE BLOCKS!
MY MEN ARE TRYING TO PUT OUT THE FLAME, BUT IT'S INSIDE THE MOTOR, AND THEY MAY BE TOO LATE!
EXPLOSIVES
ONLY ONE WAY TO HANDLE IT, ROBIN... I'LL TAKE THE TRUCK--YOU COVER ME WITH THE BATMOBILE!
I GET IT!
NEXT INSTANT, WITH ALL ATTENTION CENTERED ON THE BRILLIANT BLUE FIGURE...
WHAT'S BATMAN DOING? HE WOULDN'T DARE RISK DRIVING THAT TRUCK AWAY!
HE WON'T HAVE TO DRIVE FAR... IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE, COMMISSIONER!
THE DOOM-LADEN TRUCK SPEEDS DOWN A CLEARED STREET...
BATMAN'S WAVING HIS ARM... HE'S READY-- NOW!
AND AS THE MIGHTY BATMOBILE ROARS ALONGSIDE...
... A POTENTIAL DISASTER VANISHES!
BATMAN DROVE THE TRUCK INTO THE RIVER, TO DOUSE THE FIRE! IT CAN BE PULLED OUT SAFELY LATER!
WOW! HE WAITED TILL THE LAST MOMENT BEFORE HE JUMPED!
5

LATER, AS NEWSPAPERMEN THRONG AROUND THE "NEW" BATMAN...
BATMAN, CAN YOU TELL US WHY YOU SWITCHED TO A RED COSTUME, AND NOW TO A BLUE ONE?
YES, YOU'VE NEVER DONE ANYTHING YET WITHOUT A REASON! WHY THESE COLORED COSTUMES?
IT COULD BE I'M JUST TIRED OF THE SAME-COLORED COSTUME, YOU KNOW! BUT I'M NOT GIVING MY REASONS, YET!
I'M CERTAIN THERE'S SOME BIG STORY BEHIND THESE COLORED COSTUMES--BUT I CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT!
PRESENTLY, BACK IN THE BAT-CAVE...
I DIDN'T SEE THE CAMERA-THIEVES ANYWHERE ON THE SCENE!
YET, I'M SURE THEY WOULDN'T STEAL SUCH A CAMERA, EXCEPT TO PREPARE A BIG CRIME! WE'LL KEEP COVERING EVERY BIG EVENT THAT TV CREWS COVER!
AND AS THE DYNAMIC DUO VIGILANTLY WATCHES FOR CROOKS, GOTHAM CITY CONTINUES TO WONDER...
A BIG CROWD'S HERE TO GREET MARION MARLEY, THE FAMOUS MOVIE STAR!
AND HERE COME BATMAN AND ROBIN! WHAT KIND OF COSTUME DO YOU SUPPOSE HE'S WEARING THIS TIME?
GOLD-COLORED COSTUME THIS TIME! IT'S A DAZZLER!
NO WONDER EVERYBODY'S WATCHING HIM, INSTEAD OF MARION MARLEY!
YOU--YOU WORE THAT COSTUME DELIBERATELY, SO EVERYONE WOULD LOOK AT YOU, NOT AT ME!
I'M SORRY, MISS MARLEY--I DIDN'T MEAN TO SPOIL YOUR WELCOME!
6

AND WHEN THE CROWD DISPERSES...
BATMAN WEARING THOSE COSTUMES JUST TO ATTRACT ATTENTION? I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
NEITHER CAN I! HE MUST HAVE SOME MORE IMPORTANT PURPOSE!
YET, THAT VERY SAME DAY, AS THE PAIR SCOUTS A BIG JEWEL AND FASHION SHOW...
WE MERELY WANT TO PROTECT THE VALUABLE GEMS YOU'RE SHOWING HERE!
BUT EVERYONE IS NOW WATCHING YOUR BRILLIANT ORANGE COSTUME! PLEASE LEAVE!
WHEN THEY DEPART...
NONE OF THE THIEVES WAS PRESENT HERE EITHER, THOUGH THERE WERE TV CAMERA-MEN ALL OVER THE PLACE!
WE'VE GOT TO KEEP RIGHT ON WATCHING EVERY EVENT, TILL YOU SPOT THOSE ROBBERS!
AND AT THE NEXT EVENT, A CROWDED SHIP-LAUNCHING...
THERE COME BATMAN AND ROBIN, AND... WOW! LOOK AT THAT COSTUME!
WHY IS HE DOING IT? IS IT SOME KIND OF COLOR CODE?
IN HIS LATEST EYE-CATCHING GARB, BATMAN REACHES THE LAUNCHING PLATFORM JUST AS...
I CHRISTEN THEE "GIGANTIC"!
THE SHIP'S STARTING TO SLIDE DOWN THE WAYS!
THAT CABLE BELOW-- DANGER! HAVE TO ACT FAST...
THERE'S AN AXE A WORKMAN LEFT... I CAN STILL MAKE IT!
HEY! WHAT'S BATMAN UP TO--?
7

KEEN EYES HAVE GLIMPSED A HIDDEN MENACE...
THAT CABLE -- CONCEALED BY LITTER UNTIL NOW... AS THE SHIP SLIDES DOWN, IT'LL PULL OVER THE WHOLE PLATFORM!
AN AXE WHIRLS AND BITES IN THE NICK OF TIME...
LATER...
AGAIN, I CHECKED EVERY PERSON HERE TODAY -- AND DIDN'T SEE ANY OF THE THIEVES WE'RE AFTER!
BUT THEY'D BEEN HERE -- AND HAD FIXED THAT HIDDEN CABLE TO GET US!
THEN, AS A GRATEFUL CROWD SURROUNDS BATMAN...
YOUR PROMPT ACTION SAVED US A BAD ACCIDENT, BATMAN. WHO WOULD DO SUCH A THING?
WE'LL TRY TO FIND THAT OUT NEXT!
THEY MUST KNOW, FROM THE WAY WE WATCH EVERY EVENT COVERED BY TV CAMERA-MEN, THAT WE'RE AFTER THEM... SO THEY TRIED THIS SABOTAGE, TO PUT US OUT OF THE WAY BEFORE THEY STRIKE!
IT LOOKS THAT WAY -- AND I DON'T LIKE IT!
YOU'RE PLANNING TO COVER THE BIG SHARPSHOOTING CONTEST IN GOTHAM STADIUM TOMORROW! SUPPOSE THEY STRIKE AT YOU THERE?
IT COULD BE DANGEROUS, ALL RIGHT -- BUT WE'VE GOT TO LOOK FOR THEM THERE, TOO, AND WE'LL TAKE PRECAUTIONS!
8

So next day, when the spectacular rifle sharpshooting contest gets under way...
The greatest marksmen in the world, competing in front of the television cameras!
Remember, Robin, your job is to identify those mobsters if they're here!
A roar of surprise greets Batman's arrival...
Look what he's wearing now!
Er... Batman, your target-costume is rather staggering!
Don't let me hold up the contest... we just came to look on!
As the rifles of the contestants start blasting...
Still no sign of the thieves... if they're out to get Batman, this would be an ideal place!
CRACK!
CRACK!
CRACK!
Suddenly...
Look out! A bullet's hit Batman!
That was no accident... the bullet came from one of those roofs up there!
BANG!
But at that moment, to everyone's relief...
It's all right-- the bullet knocked me over but didn't hurt me! I'm wearing a steel vest under this costume!
Maybe we can still nab the man who fired that shot!
As the duo speeds from the stadium...
That's why I wore the target-costume this time... anyone trying a shot at me would aim at the bull's-eye, and my protective armor is underneath that!
But it shows that those gangsters will stop at nothing!
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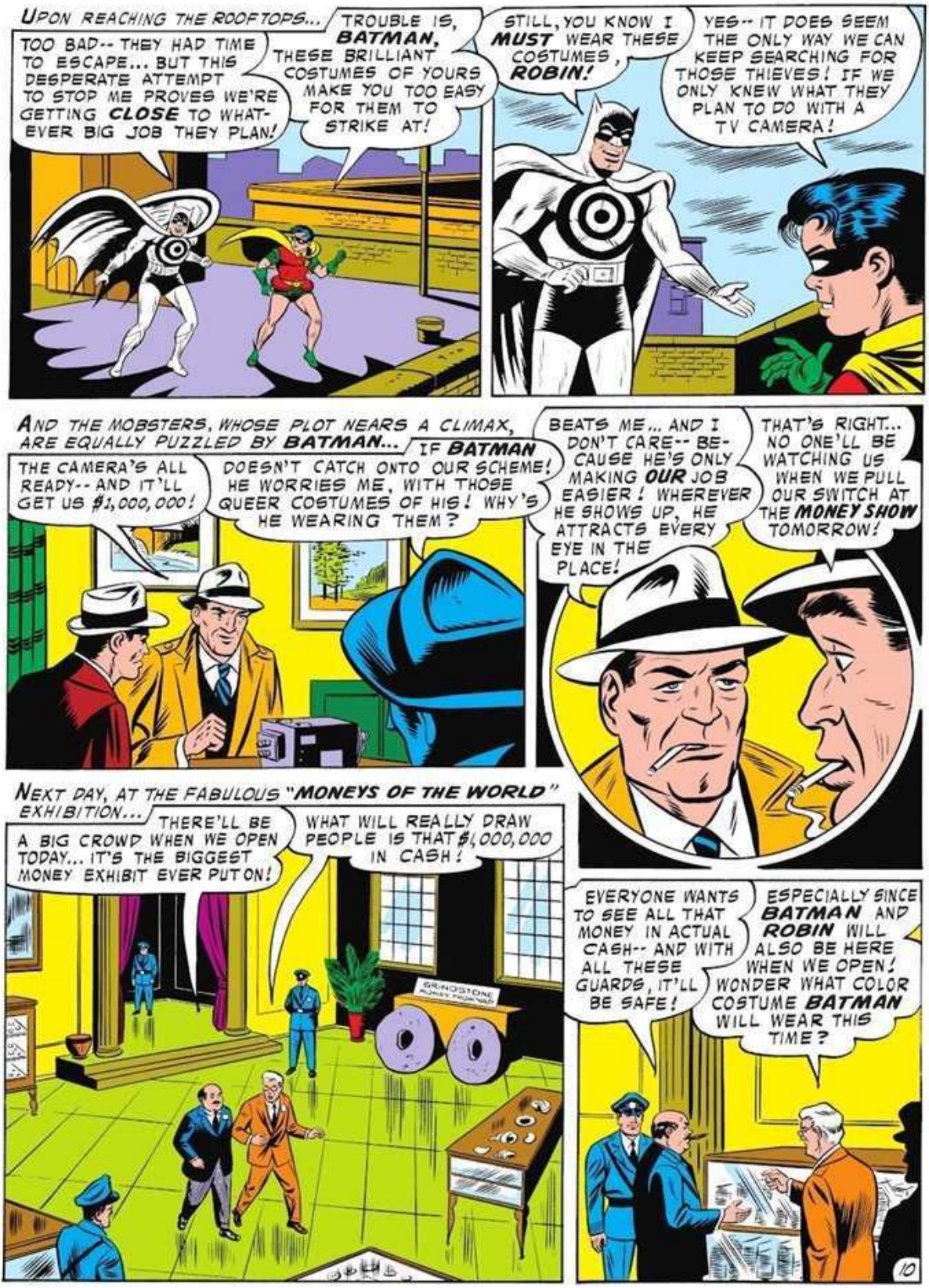
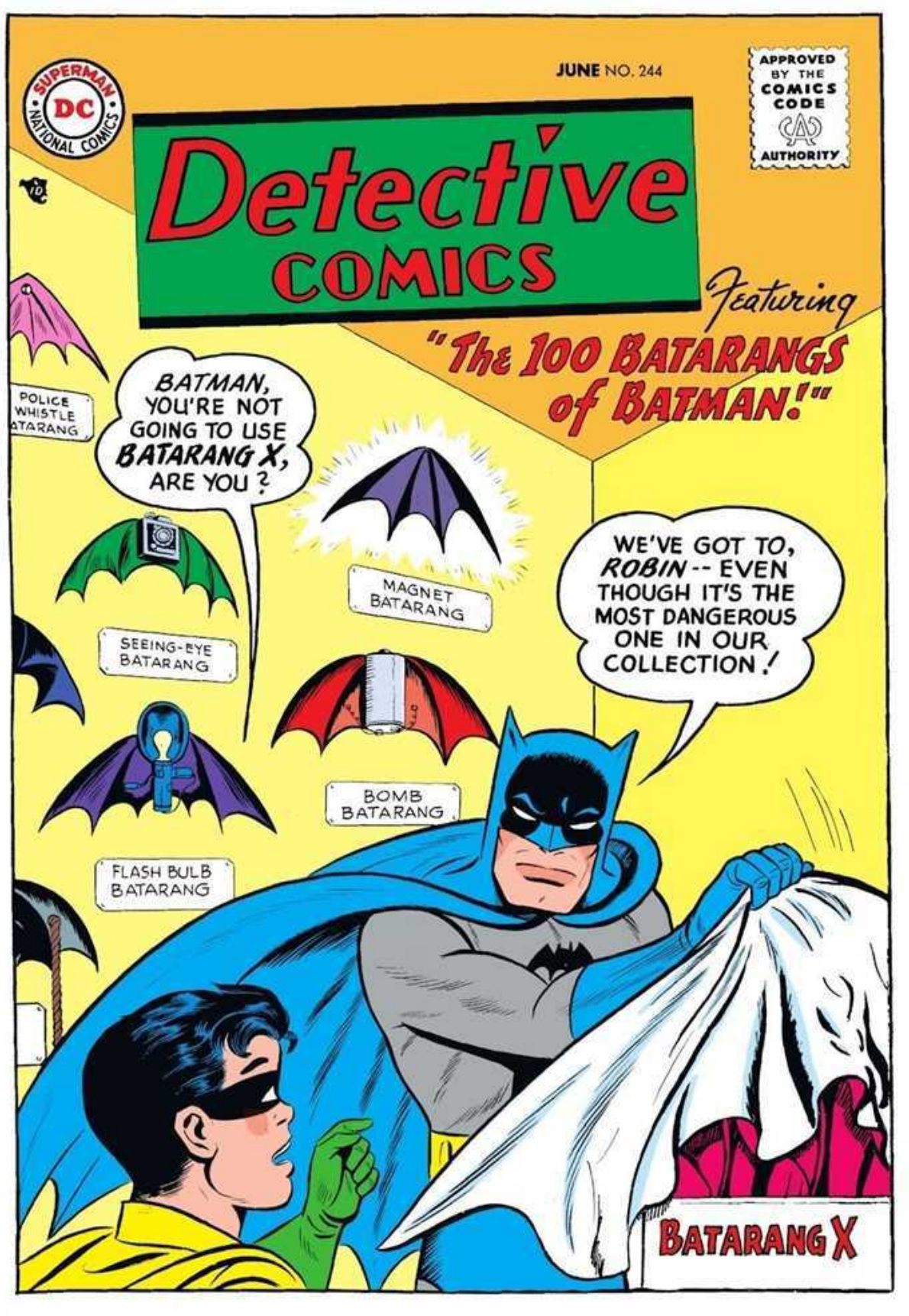
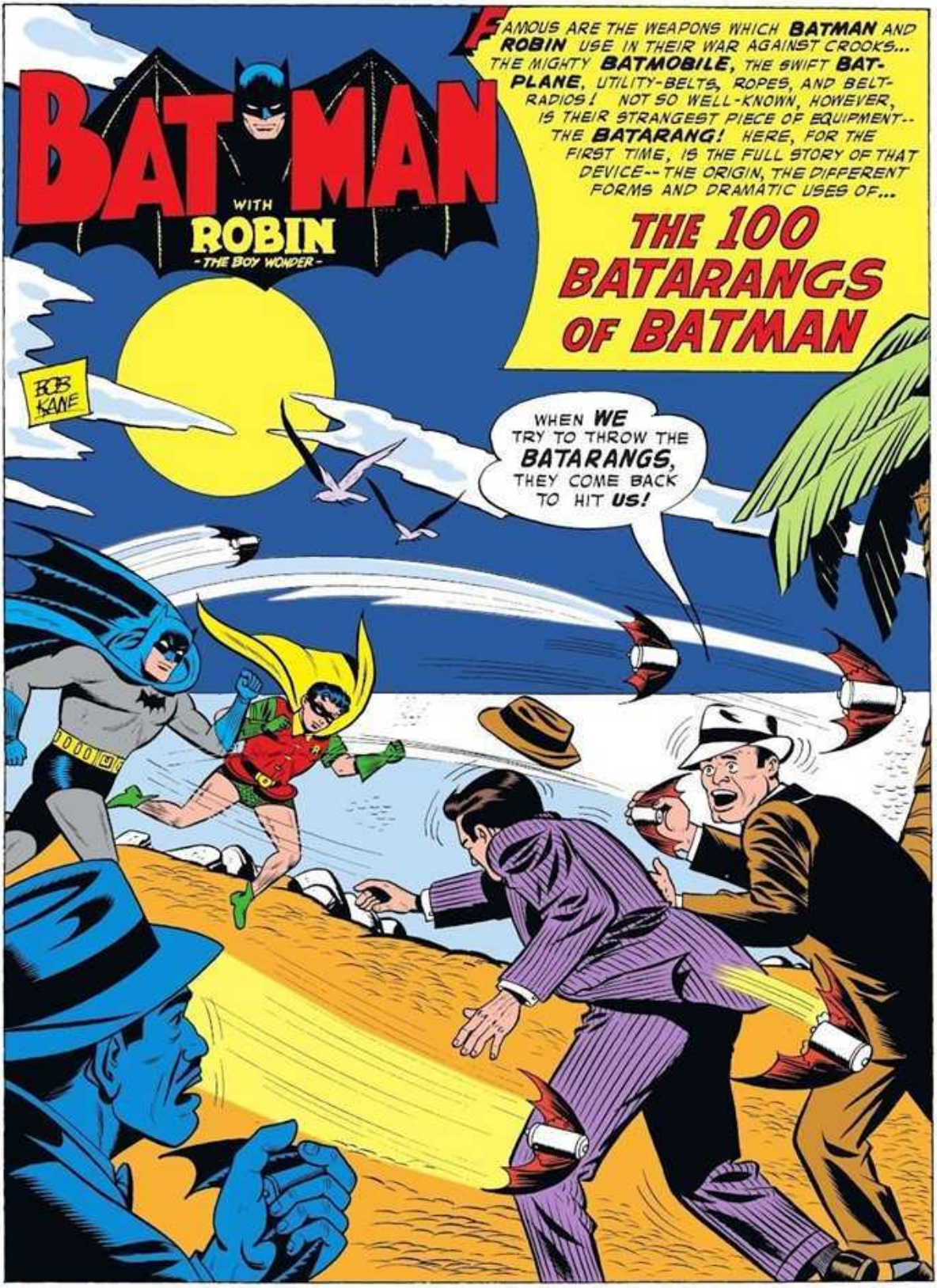

UPON REACHING THE ROOFTOPS...
TOO BAD-- THEY HAD TIME TO ESCAPE... BUT THIS DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO STOP ME PROVES WE'RE GETTING CLOSE TO WHATEVER BIG JOB THEY PLAN!
TROUBLE IS, BATMAN, THESE BRILLIANT COSTUMES OF YOURS MAKE YOU TOO EASY FOR THEM TO STRIKE AT!
STILL, YOU KNOW I MUST WEAR THESE COSTUMES, ROBIN!
YES-- IT DOES SEEM THE ONLY WAY WE CAN KEEP SEARCHING FOR THOSE THIEVES! IF WE ONLY KNEW WHAT THEY PLAN TO DO WITH A TV CAMERA!
AND THE MOBSTERS, WHOSE PLOT NEARS A CLIMAX, ARE EQUALLY PUZZLED BY BATMAN...
THE CAMERA'S ALL READY-- AND IT'LL GET US $1,000,000!
IF BATMAN DOESN'T CATCH ONTO OUR SCHEME! HE WORRIES ME, WITH THOSE QUEER COSTUMES OF HIS! WHY'S HE WEARING THEM?
BEATS ME... AND I DON'T CARE-- BECAUSE HE'S ONLY MAKING OUR JOB EASIER! WHEREVER HE SHOWS UP, HE ATTRACTS EVERY EYE IN THE PLACE!
THAT'S RIGHT... NO ONE'LL BE WATCHING US WHEN WE PULL OUR SWITCH AT THE MONEY SHOW TOMORROW!
NEXT DAY, AT THE FABULOUS "MONEYS OF THE WORLD" EXHIBITION...
THERE'LL BE A BIG CROWD WHEN WE OPEN TODAY... IT'S THE BIGGEST MONEY EXHIBIT EVER PUT ON!
WHAT WILL REALLY DRAW PEOPLE IS THAT $1,000,000 IN CASH!
GRINDSTONE
EVERYONE WANTS TO SEE ALL THAT MONEY IN ACTUAL CASH-- AND WITH ALL THESE GUARDS, IT'LL BE SAFE!
ESPECIALLY SINCE BATMAN AND ROBIN WILL ALSO BE HERE WHEN WE OPEN! I WONDER WHAT COLOR COSTUME BATMAN WILL WEAR THIS TIME?
10

TO THAT QUESTION, THERE'S MORE THAN ONE ANSWER!...
A RAINBOW COSTUME! I GIVE UP-- I CAN'T SEE WHY ON EARTH HE'D WEAR SUCH THINGS!
NOBODY CAN SEE WHY... BUT WHO CARES, AS LONG AS HE GUARDS OUR EXHIBIT?
A LITTLE LATER, AS TV NEWSCASTERS ARRIVE FOR THE OPENING...
EVERY ONE OF THOSE CAMERAMEN IS ACCREDITED.. NO SIGN OF THE THIEVES HERE!
WE'LL GO INSIDE-- KEEP WATCHING, AS THE CROWDS ENTER!
AND FINALLY, ROBIN'S VIGILANCE PAYS OFF...
BATMAN, THERE'S ONE OF THEM! NO DOUBT ABOUT IT-- HE'S ONE OF THE THIEVES WHO STOLE THE CAMERA!
HE DOESN'T HAVE THE CAMERA NOW, BUT I'LL GRAB HIM ANYHOW!
IN AN INSTANT, BATMAN BECOMES A RAINBOW OF DAZZLING ACTION...
WHATEVER YOU'VE GOT IN YOUR POCKET, PAL, THAT'S WHERE IT STAYS!
I... OOF!
BUT SEARCH OF A CAPTURED THIEF DISCLOSES...
A GAS-MASK! IS THAT ALL HE WAS REACHING FOR?
GREAT SCOTT! DON'T YOU SEE, ROBIN?...THAT'S THE ANSWER TO THE WHOLE MYSTERY!
DON'T TURN ON YOUR CAMERAS! ONE OF THEM IS BOOBY-TRAPPED!
WVE

AND AFTER A SPEEDY INSPECTION...
I THOUGHT SO... THIS ONE WOULD HAVE FLOODED THE WHOLE HALL WITH TEAR-GAS, WHEN TURNED ON! THEN, THIEVES WITH GAS-MASKS COULD HAVE SNATCHED THAT $1,000,000 IN SPITE OF THE GUARDS!
THIS ALTERED CAMERA MUST'VE BEEN SWITCHED FOR MINE, DURING THE CONFUSION OF SETTING UP OUR EQUIPMENT!
NEXT INSTANT...
THERE GO THE OTHER TWO CROOKS, BATMAN! I'VE GOT THIS ONE!
THEY'LL FIND NO POT OF GOLD AT THE END OF THIS RAINBOW... ONLY PRISON!
AND SO, AFTER POLICE HAVE TAKEN THE PRISONERS AWAY...
BATMAN, YOUR WATCHFULNESS PREVENTED A CRIME AGAIN! BUT CAN YOU TELL US, NOW, WHY YOU'VE BEEN WEARING ALL THESE COLORED COSTUMES?
NO, I CAN'T! THIS IS THE LAST ONE I'LL WEAR, BUT WHY I DID IT MUST REMAIN A SECRET!
LATER, AS BRUCE WAYNE'S LOYAL BUTLER, ALFRED, GREETS THE DUO...
I'M GLAD YOU CAUGHT THE RASCALS, SIR--BUT WHY DID YOU HAVE TO WEAR SUCH GAUDY GARMENTS?
YOU SEE, ALFRED, ROBIN HAD TO HELP ME FIND THOSE THIEVES, BECAUSE ONLY HE HAD SEEN THEIR FACES AND COULD IDENTIFY THEM!
BUT IF ANYONE NOTICED THAT AS ROBIN, I COULDN'T USE MY LEFT ARM, THEY MIGHT REMEMBER THE PUBLICITY ABOUT DICK GRAYSON'S INJURY--AND SUSPECT OUR IDENTITY!
THAT'S WHY I WORE SUCH COLORFUL, EYE-CATCHING COSTUMES--SO EVERYONE WOULD LOOK AT ME, AND NOT AT ROBIN!
AND IT WORKED... NO ONE NOTICED ME AND MY ARM, WHEN ALL EYES WERE ON BATMAN'S BRIGHT COSTUMES!
BUT NOW THAT'S OVER, I CAN QUIT BEING A PEACOCK AND BECOME A BATMAN AGAIN!
THE END.
12


SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
JUNE NO. 244
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
Detective COMICS
Featuring
"The 100 BATARANGS of BATMAN!"
POLICE WHISTLE ATARANG
BATMAN, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO USE BATARANG X, ARE YOU?
MAGNET BATARANG
SEEING-EYE BATARANG
WE'VE GOT TO, ROBIN -- EVEN THOUGH IT'S THE MOST DANGEROUS ONE IN OUR COLLECTION!
BOMB BATARANG
FLASH BULB BATARANG
BATARANG X


BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-
FAMOUS ARE THE WEAPONS WHICH BATMAN AND ROBIN USE IN THEIR WAR AGAINST CROOKS... THE MIGHTY BATMOBILE, THE SWIFT BAT-PLANE, UTILITY-BELTS, ROPES, AND BELT-RADIOS! NOT SO WELL-KNOWN, HOWEVER, IS THEIR STRANGEST PIECE OF EQUIPMENT--THE BATARANG! HERE, FOR THE FIRST TIME, IS THE FULL STORY OF THAT DEVICE--THE ORIGIN, THE DIFFERENT FORMS AND DRAMATIC USES OF...
THE 100 BATARANGS OF BATMAN
BOB KANE
WHEN WE TRY TO THROW THE BATARANGS, THEY COME BACK TO HIT US!

BATMAN HAS MANY ADMIRERS--BUT NONE MORE DEVOTED THAN ELMER MASON...
OH, PSHAW! WHO'S AT THE DOOR NOW? JUST WHEN I WAS FINISHING UP MY LATEST BATMAN SCRAPBOOK!
KNOCK KNOCK
MR. MASON, WE'RE BATMAN ADMIRERS, TOO--AND WE UNDERSTAND YOU HAVE SOME FINE FILMS OF BATMAN IN ACTION!
YES, I BOUGHT SOME USED FILMS FROM NEWSREEL MEN! I'D BE GLAD TO SHOW THEM TO FELLOW BATMAN-ENTHUSIASTS!
AS THE PROUD COLLECTOR BEGINS EXHIBITING HIS MOVIE SCRAPBOOK...
UH...PICTURES OF BATMAN USING THE BATARANG ARE WHAT WE'RE MOST INTERESTED IN!
I'VE SOME SPLENDID SHOTS OF HIM DOING THAT! I'LL SHOW YOU...
FINE--THAT'S JUST WHAT WE WANT! WE'LL TAKE THOSE PARTICULAR FILMS WITH US!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, TAKE THEM? I WON'T LET YOU!
BUT A STUNNING BLOW DESCENDS, AND...
OH-H... MY HEAD!
HAW! THESE FILMS ARE GONNA HELP US PAY BATMAN BACK WITH HIS OWN STUNT!
SOON, WHEN ELMER MASON RECOVERS ENOUGH TO GO TO THE POLICE...
I WASN'T COMPLETELY UNCONSCIOUS, COMMISSIONER GORDON--AND I HEARD THEM!
I'LL CALL BATMAN AT ONCE--THOUGH IT PUZZLES ME WHY CROOKS WOULD WANT TO STEAL SUCH FILMS!
2

WITHIN MINUTES, AT THE MANSION OF WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...
LOOK... THE BAT-SIGNAL, BRUCE!
OUR CALL SIGN FROM POLICE HEADQUARTERS! LET'S GO, DICK...
DOWN IN THEIR SECRET BAT-CAVE, A SWIFT CHANGE OF GARB...
GOTHAM CITY'S BEEN SO QUIET LATELY... I WONDER WHAT'S BROKEN NOW?
WE'LL SOON FIND OUT-- AS BATMAN AND ROBIN!
SHORTLY, IN COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...
...AND AS THE THIEVES STOLE THOSE FILMS, ONE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT PAYING YOU BACK WITH YOUR OWN STUNT!
HMM... AND THEY TOOK ONLY THE FILMS THAT SHOWED ME USING THE BATARANG, EH?
APPARENTLY, THEY WANT TO LEARN HOW TO THROW THE BATARANG THEMSELVES-- SO THEY CAN USE IT AS A CRIME WEAPON!
BUT HOW WOULD A CRIMINAL KNOW ABOUT ITS CAPABILITIES AND USES?
WHOEVER WE'VE CAPTURED WITH IT WOULD REMEMBER HOW IT WAS USED! GOING OVER OUR PAST BATARANG CASES WOULD GIVE US A LIST OF SUSPECTS!
I HOPE YOU GET A LEAD-- THIS THING BEGINS TO WORRY ME!
AND IT'S A WORRIED DUO THAT RETURNS TO THE BAT-CAVE..
WE HAVEN'T ANY IDEA WHICH KIND OF BATARANG THOSE CROOKS PLAN TO USE!
BUT WE CAN STILL FORM A LIST OF SUSPECTS BY CHECKING PAST CASES...
OF COURSE, IT COULDN'T BE OUR BATARANG X! WE'VE KEPT THAT ONE LOCKED UP, BECAUSE IT'S SO DANGEROUS!
YOU'RE RIGHT... IT'S HARD TO SEE HOW ANY CROOK COULD HAVE LEARNED ITS SECRET!
BATARANG
X
WHAT IS THE SECRET OF THIS MYSTERY-BATARANG? WHATEVER IT IS...
3

... BATMAN AND ROBIN PASS IT BY, TO BEGIN THEIR SEARCH FOR A CLUE...
HERE'S THE FIRST BATARANG I EVER USED-- THE ONE LEE COLLINS GAVE ME!
COLLINS-- HE WAS AN AUSTRALIAN, WASN'T HE?
YES, AND A MASTER OF HIS PECULIAR SKILL! I'LL NEVER FORGET THE FIRST TIME I MET HIM...
"I HAD TRAILED A WANTED THIEF TO THE CIRCUS, WHERE HE TRIED TO LOSE ME IN THE CROWD..."
I DON'T SEE BARD, BUT I KNOW HE'S SOMEWHERE HERE!
PRESENTING THAT WIZARD OF THE STRANGE AUSTRALIAN DEVICE, THE BOOMERANG-- LEE COLLINS!
"JUST AS COLLINS BEGAN HIS BRILLIANT ACT, I SPOTTED MY MAN..."
THE BOOMERANG IS THE ONLY OBJECT IN THE WORLD THAT COMES BACK TO ITS THROWER-- AND I NOW HAVE SIX OF THEM COMING BACK TO ME!
THERE'S BARD... BUT HE'S SEEN ME-- HE'S ESCAPING!
"AS I STARTED AFTER HIM..."
BATMAN, HE'S WAITING BEHIND THAT WAGON-- AND HE'S GOT A GUN!
I'VE GOT TO GO AFTER HIM ANY-WAY!
MAYBE I CAN HELP!..
CIRCUS
"COLLINS FLUNG HIS BOOMERANG WITH PERFECT AIM..."
HUH--? WHAT'S THAT?
WHACK!
4

"THE DIVERSION LASTED LESS THAN A SECOND--BUT THAT WAS ALL THE TIME I NEEDED..."

THANKS, COLLINS!

"AFTERWARD, WHEN POLICE HAD TAKEN BARD AWAY..."

YOUR BOOMERANGS INTEREST ME, COLLINS... I'LL BET I COULD PUT THEM TO GOOD USE!

WHY, I'D BE GLAD TO SHOW YOU ALL I KNOW ABOUT BOOMERANGS, **BATMAN!** I KNOW THE GREAT WORK YOU DO AS A LAWMAN!

Fortune

"COLLINS KEPT HIS WORD, TEACHING ME EVERY DETAIL OF THE DEVICE..."

THAT'S IT, **BATMAN**--THROW IT FORWARD **VERTICALLY!** ITS SHAPE MAKES IT SLANT IN A **HORIZONTAL** PATH, TO CURVE AROUND BACK TO YOU!

I WANT TO HAVE ABSOLUTE CONTROL--SINCE I'M GOING TO USE THIS NOT AS A WEAPON, BUT AS A SORT OF EXTENSION-**ARM!**

WHEN COLLINS DEPARTED WITH HIS SHOW, HE MADE ME A PRESENT..."

NOW THAT YOU'RE AS SKILLFUL AS I AM, **BATMAN,** I'VE MADE THIS SPECIAL BOOMERANG FOR YOU! IT'S A SORT OF **BAT**-ARANG, WITH BAT-LIKE WINGS!

THANKS, COLLINS... I'LL NEVER FORGET YOUR HELP!

SO THAT'S HOW THE **BATA-RANG** ORIGINATED! MAYBE THAT CROOK COLLINS HELPED YOU CAPTURE IS THE MAN WE WANT!

IF HE'S OUT OF PRISON BY NOW, WE'LL ADD BARD TO OUR LIST OF SUSPECTS.

NOW--HOW ABOUT THIS **MAGNETIC BATARANG?**

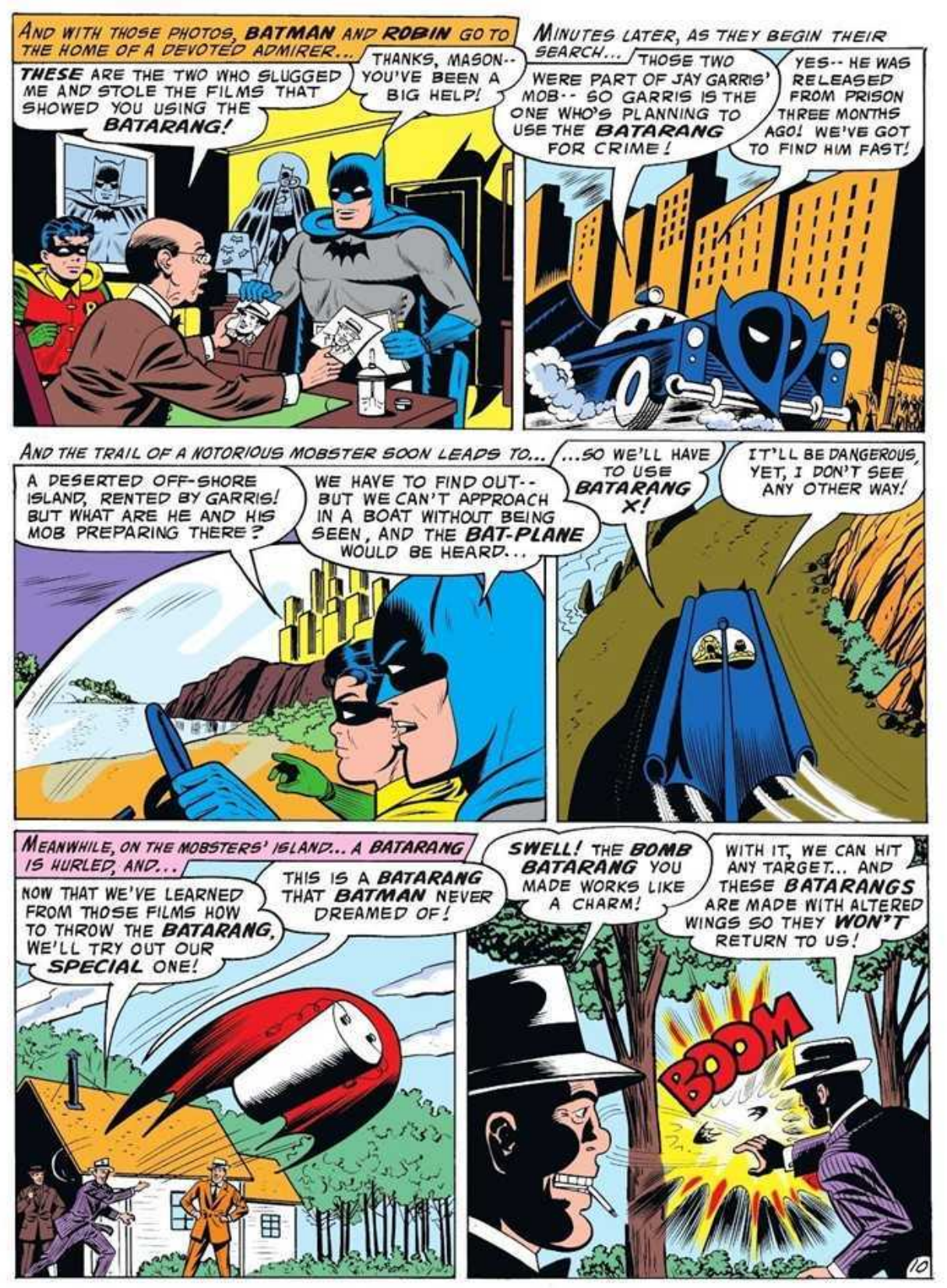
I REMEMBER WE MADE THAT ONE SPECIALLY, WHEN WE WERE AFTER A COUNTERFEIT MOB...

"TROUBLE WAS, WE COULD NEVER SECURE PROOF OF THEIR GUILT..."
THEY'VE DONE IT AGAIN, BATMAN-- DROPPED THE STEEL MONEY-PRINTING PLATES INTO DESTROY-ING ACID!
YOU'VE GOT NO PROOF NOW THEY WERE COUNTERFEIT PLATES, SO YOU CAN'T TAKE US IN!
"BUT, WHEN WE TRIED AGAIN, SOME NIGHTS LATER..."
THEY'RE AT IT AGAIN... THEY HAVE TO KEEP THE WINDOW OPEN BECAUSE OF THE FUMES FROM THAT ACID!
THIS TIME, THEIR STEEL PLATES WON'T REACH THE ACID! COME ON...
"AS THEIR SECRET ALARM WENT OFF, THE COUNTER-FEITERS SNATCHED THE STEEL PLATES FROM THE PRESS TO DESTROY THEM, BUT..."
"THE MAGNETIC BATARANG BROUGHT THE INCRIMINATING PLATES RIGHT BACK TO MY HAND!"
EEYOW! A BATARANG! IT'S PICKED UP THE PLATES!
AND IT'S TAKING THEM BACK OUT!
NOW THAT WE HAVE THE EVIDENCE TO CONVICT THEM, WE CAN GRAB THEM!
RIGHT!
THEY WENT TO JAIL, BUT THEY MIGHT HAVE SERVED THEIR TIME BY NOW--SO THEY'RE SUSPECTS, TOO! BATMAN, DO YOU SUPPOSE ANY OF THEM COULD HAVE LEARNED ABOUT BATARANGX?
IMPOSSIBLE! IT MUST BE SOME OTHER BATARANG THEY'RE PLANNING TO USE!
MAGNETIC BATARANG
IT COULD BE THIS SEEING-EYE BATARANG! REMEMBER WHEN WE USED IT?
YES--AT A MOVIE-STUDIO ROBBERY!
6

"WE GOT THE POLICE FLASH RIGHT HERE IN THE BAT-CAVE..."
PAYROLL BANDITS BELIEVED TO BE HIDING SOMEWHERE IN GOTHAM STUDIOS-- BUT HAVE NOT YET BEEN FOUND!
COME ON, ROBIN-- CORNERED BANDITS ARE DANGEROUS! WE'D BETTER TAKE SOME SPECIAL EQUIPMENT!
"THE BIG STUDIO WAS A SCENE OF TENSION WHEN WE ARRIVED..."
WE STOPPED THEM FROM GRABBING THE PAYROLL, BUT THEY RETREATED IN THERE! THEY'RE HEAVILY ARMED... TO HUNT THEM OUT WILL BE DANGEROUS!
NOT IF WE KNOW EXACTLY WHERE THEY ARE... AND MAYBE WE CAN FIND OUT FAST!
"YOU THREW THE SEEING-EYE BATARANG OUT OVER THE MASS OF SETS..."
FORTUNATELY, MOVIE-SET BUILDINGS ARE FAKES, WITHOUT ROOFS OR CEILINGS!
I DON'T GET IT... DOES BATMAN THINK HE CAN SCARE THEM OUT WITH HIS BATARANG?
"AS THE BATARANG CURVED BACK AROUND TO YOUR HAND..."
I'M AFRAID YOUR WEAPON DIDN'T ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING, BATMAN! THEY'RE STILL HIDING IN THERE!
TRUE...
HOTEL
...BUT NOW WE CAN SEE JUST WHERE THEY'RE HIDING, THANKS TO THE PICTURE AUTOMATICALLY TAKEN BY THE CAMERA IN THE SEEING-EYE BATARANG AS IT FLEW OVER THEM!
"THE INSTANT-DEVELOPING PICTURE SHOWED THEM UP CLEARLY..."
THEY'RE INSIDE THAT ORIENTAL-TEMPLE SET, BATMAN!
RIGHT--WE'LL TAKE THEM BY SURPRISE, NOW THAT WE KNOW WHERE THEY ARE! COME ON, ROBIN...
7

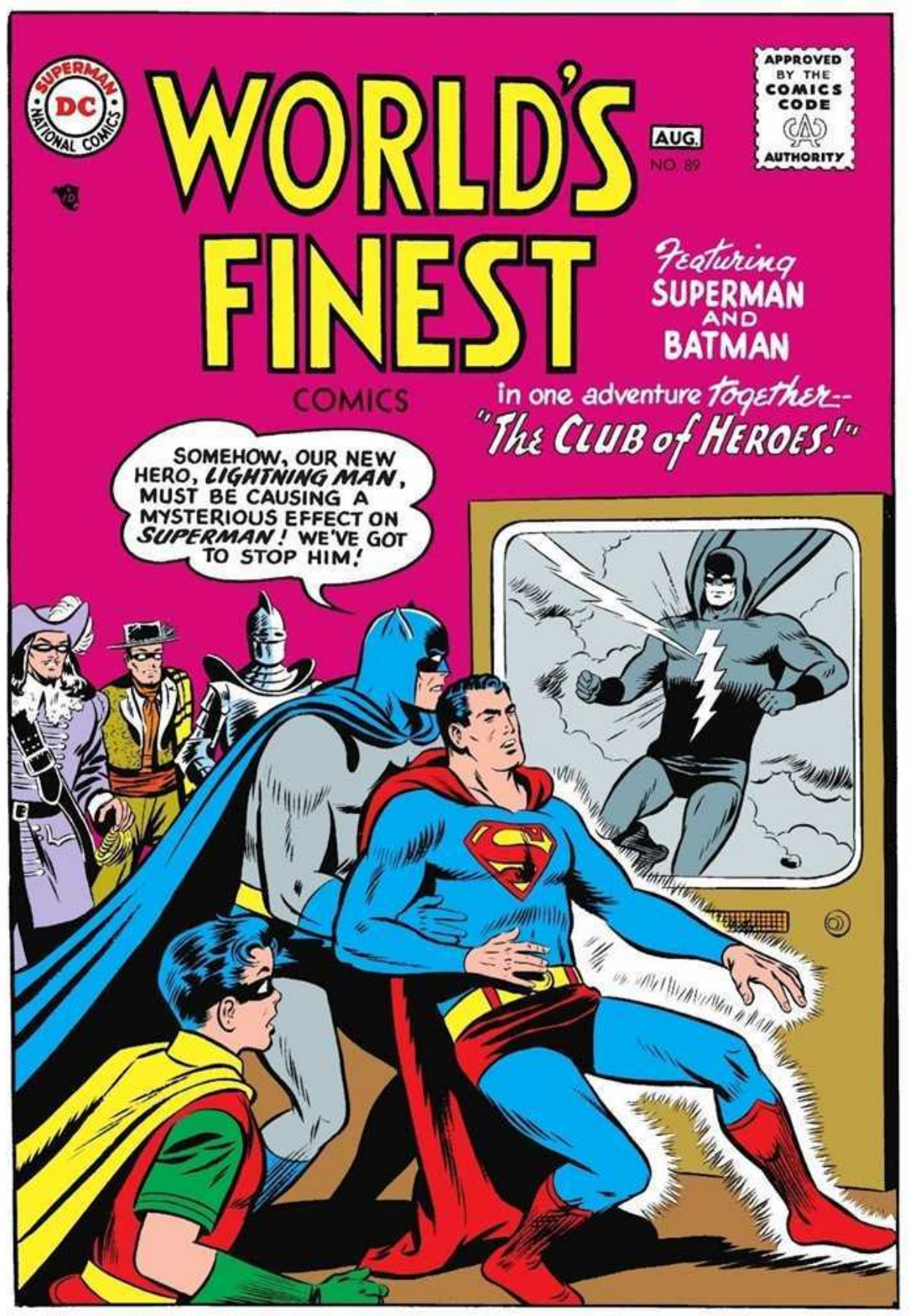
"KNOWING JUST WHERE THEY WERE, IT TOOK ONLY MOMENTS FOR US TO ACT..."
THERE THEY ARE--JUST WHERE THE CAMERA SHOWED THEM!
HUH--? THAT BATARANG HE THREW TOOK A PICTURE OF... OOF!
MY SLIP-OF-THE-TONGUE, THAT TIME, LET THEM KNOW THE TRICK OF THE SEEING-EYE BATARANG... SO THEY'RE SUSPECTS, TOO!
YES--BUT I DOUBT IF THAT'S THE BATARANG THEY PLAN TO USE! AND I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE THEY KNOW ABOUT BATARANG X!
FLASH BULB BATARANG
BOMB BATARANG
HERE'S A BATARANG THAT WAS ONLY USED ONCE--BUT IT SAVED COMMISSIONER GORDON! YOU WEREN'T THERE AT THE TIME, ROBIN...
"WE WERE SEPARATELY SEARCHING FOR JAY GARRIS THAT NIGHT, AND IT WAS I WHO FINALLY SPOTTED HIM..."
HE SWORE REVENGE ON COMMISSIONER GORDON--AND HE'S GOING TO PUSH THOSE COPING-STONES DOWN ON HIM! MY VOICE WON'T REACH THE COMMISSIONER, AND I CAN'T GET THERE IN TIME!
"WITH ONLY A MOMENT TO WARN HIM, I TOOK A TOOL FROM MY UTILITY BELT AND BORED A SMALL HOLE THROUGH MY BATARANG..."
"AND AS I THREW IT, FAR UP THE STREET BEHIND THE COMMISSIONER, CAUSING AIR TO SHOOT THROUGH THAT TINY APERTURE..."
THE WHISTLE IT'S MAKING SHOULD TURN THE COMMISSIONER AROUND!
WHY--THAT SOUNDS LIKE A POLICE-WHISTLE!
WHEEE!
8

"TRUE TO HIS DUTY AS ALWAYS, THE COMMISSIONER HASTILY WENT BACK THE WAY HE'D COME!"
AND NOW I CAN GO AFTER GARRIS!
GARRIS LEARNED THE POWER OF THE BATARANG THAT NIGHT--SO HE'S A SUSPECT, TOO!
YES-- I NEVER REALIZED TILL NOW THAT CROOKS WHO SAW THE BATARANG WOULD TRY TO GET IT! THANK GOODNESS NONE OF THEM EVER SAW BATARANG X!
AND AS THE DUO CHECKS THE HISTORY OF OTHER BATARANGS...
THIS IS THE FLASH-BULB BATARANG WE USED TO SPOT THE MIDNIGHT MOB!
AND WE USED THIS ROPE BATARANG...
..." TO CARRY OUR ROPE UP TO THE PENT-HOUSE HIDEOUT OF THAT WANTED SWINDLER MATT HOWLAND!"
THAT LOOPS MY ROPE AROUND THE PENTHOUSE CHIMNEY... I'LL CLIMB UP FAST!
WELL--WE'VE NOW GOT MORE THAN A DOZEN SUSPECTS... CROOKS WHO KNOW THE VARIOUS ABILITIES OF THE BATARANG, BECAUSE WE CAUGHT THEM WITH IT!
WE'LL RUN THESE NAMES THROUGH OUR CRIME-FILE!
SOON... ALL BUT THREE OF THOSE SUSPECTS ARE STILL IN PRISON! THAT LEAVES JAY GARRIS, WHITEY MANTELL, AND MATT HOWLAND AS SUSPECTS!
ALL DANGEROUS MOB-LEADERS! THE CARD-SORTING MACHINE WILL ALSO GIVE US THE NAMES AND PHOTOS OF THEIR KNOWN ASSOCIATES!
9


AND WITH THOSE PHOTOS, BATMAN AND ROBIN GO TO THE HOME OF A DEVOTED ADMIRER...
THESE ARE THE TWO WHO SLUGGED ME AND STOLE THE FILMS THAT SHOWED YOU USING THE BATARANG!
THANKS, MASON-- YOU'VE BEEN A BIG HELP!
MINUTES LATER, AS THEY BEGIN THEIR SEARCH...
THOSE TWO WERE PART OF JAY GARRIS' MOB-- SO GARRIS IS THE ONE WHO'S PLANNING TO USE THE BATARANG FOR CRIME!
YES-- HE WAS RELEASED FROM PRISON THREE MONTHS AGO! WE'VE GOT TO FIND HIM FAST!
AND THE TRAIL OF A NOTORIOUS MOBSTER SOON LEADS TO...
A DESERTED OFF-SHORE ISLAND, RENTED BY GARRIS! BUT WHAT ARE HE AND HIS MOB PREPARING THERE?
WE HAVE TO FIND OUT-- BUT WE CAN'T APPROACH IN A BOAT WITHOUT BEING SEEN, AND THE BAT-PLANE WOULD BE HEARD...
...SO WE'LL HAVE TO USE BATARANG X!
IT'LL BE DANGEROUS, YET, I DON'T SEE ANY OTHER WAY!
MEANWHILE, ON THE MOBSTERS' ISLAND... A BATARANG IS HURLED, AND...
NOW THAT WE'VE LEARNED FROM THOSE FILMS HOW TO THROW THE BATARANG, WE'LL TRY OUT OUR SPECIAL ONE!
THIS IS A BATARANG THAT BATMAN NEVER DREAMED OF!
SWELL! THE BOMB BATARANG YOU MADE WORKS LIKE A CHARM!
WITH IT, WE CAN HIT ANY TARGET... AND THESE BATARANGS ARE MADE WITH ALTERED WINGS SO THEY WON'T RETURN TO US!
BOOM
10

WE'VE GOT ENOUGH BOMB BATARANGS TO LOOT GOTHAM CITY... WE CAN CURVE THEM THROUGH WINDOWS, INTO ANY PLACE! IN THE MORNING, WE'LL START OUR RAIDS!
HA, HA... WHAT A SURPRISE FOR BATMAN!
BUT, BEFORE MORNING COMES...
SWING UP THE CATAPULT, AND WE'LL GET BATARANG X INTO THE HURLING POSITION!
I STILL THINK THIS IS TOO RISKY FOR YOU, BATMAN!
UP FROM THE COVERED DECK OF THE BATMOBILE RISES A POWERFUL CATAPULT-LAUNCHER...
BATARANG X-- THE GIANT BATARANG... OUR BEST CHANCE TO GET ONTO THAT ISLAND SECRETLY!
BE CAREFUL, BATMAN-- IT'S A TRICKY THING!
THE POWERFUL CATAPULT HURLS OUT THE GIANT BATARANG, BEARING A HUMAN FIGURE...
SILENTLY AS A HUGE BAT, BATARANG X CURVES LOW OVER THE ISLAND..
MUST GET MY ROPE OVER THAT TREE, WITHOUT BREAKING ANY BRANCHES OR MAKING A NOISE...
A FLYING SHADOW PLUNGES FROM THE CIRCLING, HUGE BATARANG...
11

... AND, SILENTLY AS IT CAME, THE BIG BATARANG RETURNS TO ITS SENDER...
DID BATMAN SWING OFF IT SAFELY? EVEN FOR AN ACROBAT LIKE HIM, IT'S A TOUGH FEAT! CAN'T HEAR A THING...
BUT ALREADY, IN THE SHED BEHIND THE MOBSTERS' HIDEOUT...
BOMB BATARANGS! SO THAT'S WHAT GARRIS HAS PLANNED! WELL--MAYBE I CAN GIVE HIM A SURPRISE...
AT DAWN, WHEN THE CRIMINALS EMERGE...
LOOK... BATMAN!
QUICK--USE THE BOMB BATARANGS!
BUT AS THEY HURL THE SINISTER BATARANGS...
HE DUCKED THEM--AND THEY'RE COMING BACK TOWARD US!
LOOK OUT! OUR OWN BOMB BATARANGS ARE GONNA HIT US!
NO... I TOOK OUT THE EXPLOSIVES YOU PUT IN THEM, GARRIS--AND ALTERED THE WINGS SO THEY'D COME RIGHT BACK TO HIT THE THROWERS! I DON'T THINK I'LL HAVE MUCH TROUBLE WITH YOU THREE NOW!
AND SO, LATER, BACK AT THE BAT-CAVE...
WE KEPT THE SECRET OF BATARANG X--AND THOSE CROOKS ARE BACK IN JAIL! WHAT A RELIEF!
IT'S IRONIC, IN A WAY, THE BATARANG, EVEN WHEN THEY THREW IT THEMSELVES, WAS WHAT CONQUERED THEM IN THE END!
BATARANG
X
12
END.


SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
WORLD'S FINEST
COMICS
AUG.
NO. 89
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
Featuring SUPERMAN AND BATMAN
in one adventure together--
"The CLUB of HEROES!"
SOMEHOW, OUR NEW HERO, LIGHTNING MAN, MUST BE CAUSING A MYSTERIOUS EFFECT ON SUPERMAN! WE'VE GOT TO STOP HIM!

YOUR TWO FAVORITE HEROES
SUPERMAN
and
BAT MAN AND ROBIN
IN ONE ADVENTURE Together!
WHEN THE MOST FAMOUS HEROES IN THE WORLD ARE GATHERED TOGETHER, WHO AMONG THEM WILL BE CHOSEN AS THE GREATEST? WILL IT BE SUPERMAN, THE MIGHTY MAN OF STEEL? OR BATMAN, THE GALLANT, CAPED CRIME-BUSTER? AMAZINGLY ENOUGH, IT'S NEITHER-- FOR THEY ARE ECLIPSED BY A FABULOUS NEWCOMER WHO CAN MATCH ALL THEIR FEATS AND POWERS! AND THE TWO LAWMEN MUST STRUGGLE TO SOLVE A PERILOUS MYSTERY WHICH CENTERS AROUND THAT MYSTERIOUS NEWCOMER WHO LEADS...
"THE CLUB OF HEROES"
I GUESS YOU AND I HAVE TO TAKE SECOND PLACE TO THIS NEW LIGHTNING-MAN FROM NOW ON!
DAILY PLANET
5¢
NEW HERO, LIGHTNING-MAN, PREVENTS DISASTER

ONE NIGHT IN METROPOLIS, A NEWS-SIGN BLAZES AN URGENT MESSAGE...

SOMETHING BIG MUST BE UP... I'D BETTER CHANGE COSTUME FAST!

CALLING SUPERM

AND MILD-MANNERED REPORTER CLARK KENT SWIFTLY BECOMES MIGHTY **SUPERMAN**, TO ANSWER A FATEFUL SUMMONS...

MEANWHILE, A SYMBOL IN THE GOTHAM CITY SKIES SUMMONS **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

YES, THAT'S WHY I FLASHED THE **BAT-SIGNAL**... YOU'RE NEEDED IN METROPOLIS!

THINGS ARE QUIET HERE, COMMISSIONER... WE'LL HURRY UP THERE AT ONCE!

GOTHAM CITY POLICE

AROUND THE WORLD FLASHES THE SAME MYSTERIOUS SUMMONS, TO THE TWO GREAT LAWMEN OF **ENGLAND**...

... AND THE **KNIGHT** AND **SQUIRE** ARE ASKED TO COME TO METROPOLIS!

WIRELESS SHOPPE

WE'LL ANSWER THAT CALL! BUT NO ONE MUST GUESS OUR REAL IDENTITIES -- SO WE'LL WEAR OUR **KNIGHT** AND **SQUIRE** COSTUMES IN AMERICA, TOO!

THE **MUSKETEER**, GREAT MASKED LAWMAN OF FRANCE, IS SUMMONED ALSO...

WE WILL MISS YOU, M'SIEU **MUSKETEER**, FOR EVEN THOUGH WE KNOW NOT YOUR REAL NAME, YOU ARE A TERROR TO LAWBREAKERS!

I WILL RETURN WHEN I FIND OUT WHY THEY NEED ME IN L'AMERIQUE!

THE **GAUCHO** OF SOUTH AMERICA, TOO...

HERE IS THE THIEF YOU WANTED!

MUCHAS GRACIAS, **GAUCHO**... WE KNEW YOU'D RUN HIM DOWN! BUT THERE IS A CALL FOR YOU, FROM NORTE AMERICA!

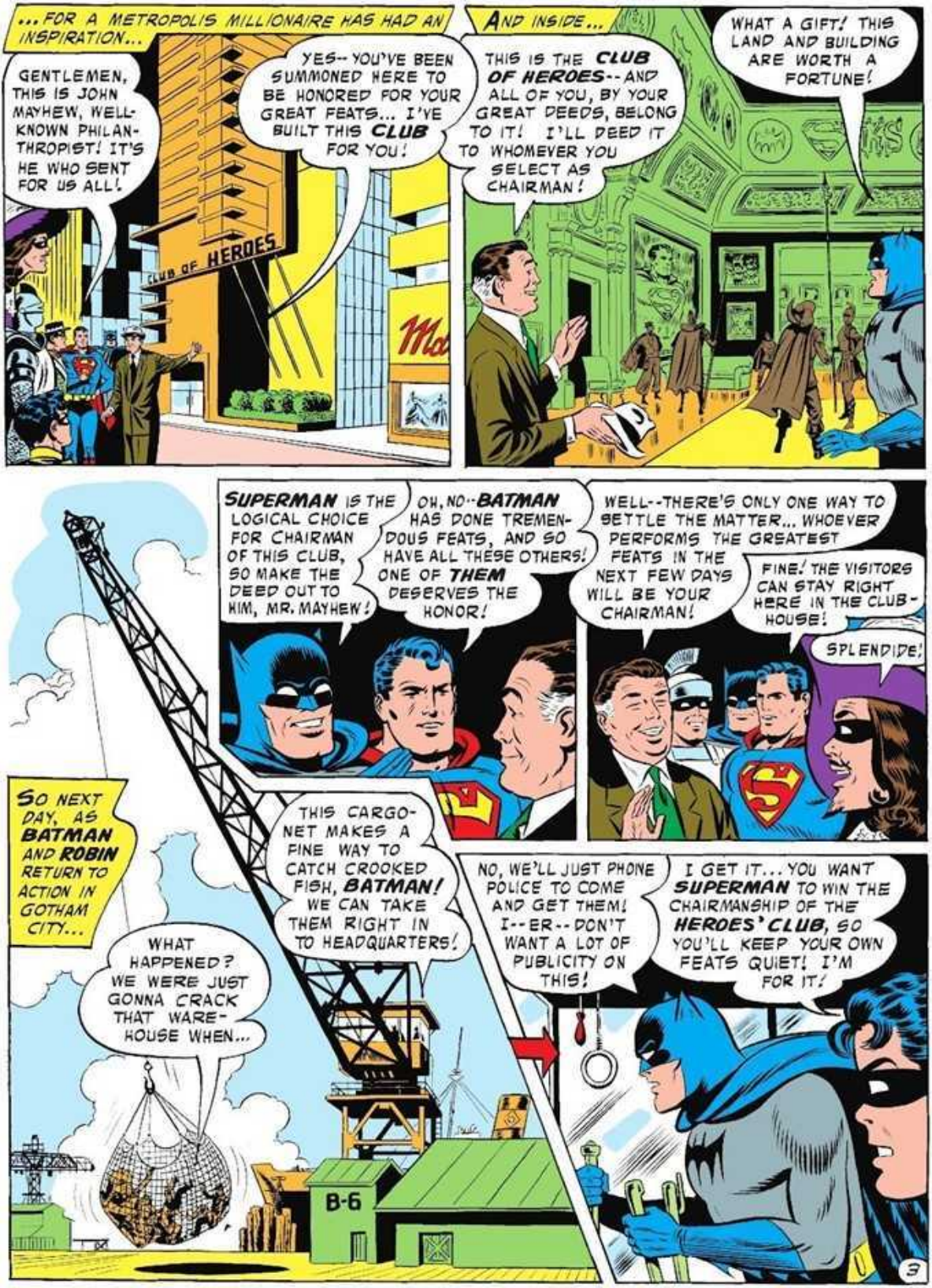
AND THAT HERO IN FARAWAY ITALY, WHO CONCEALS HIS IDENTITY UNDER ANCIENT ROMAN GUISE...

YES, WE ARE HONORED TO CARRY TO AMERICA THE **LEGIONARY**, OUR GREATEST HERO!

BUT WHY HAVE ALL THESE GREAT LAWMEN BEEN SUMMONED TO METROPOLIS? IT MUST BE FOR SOME TREMENDOUS REASON!

HEAL AIR

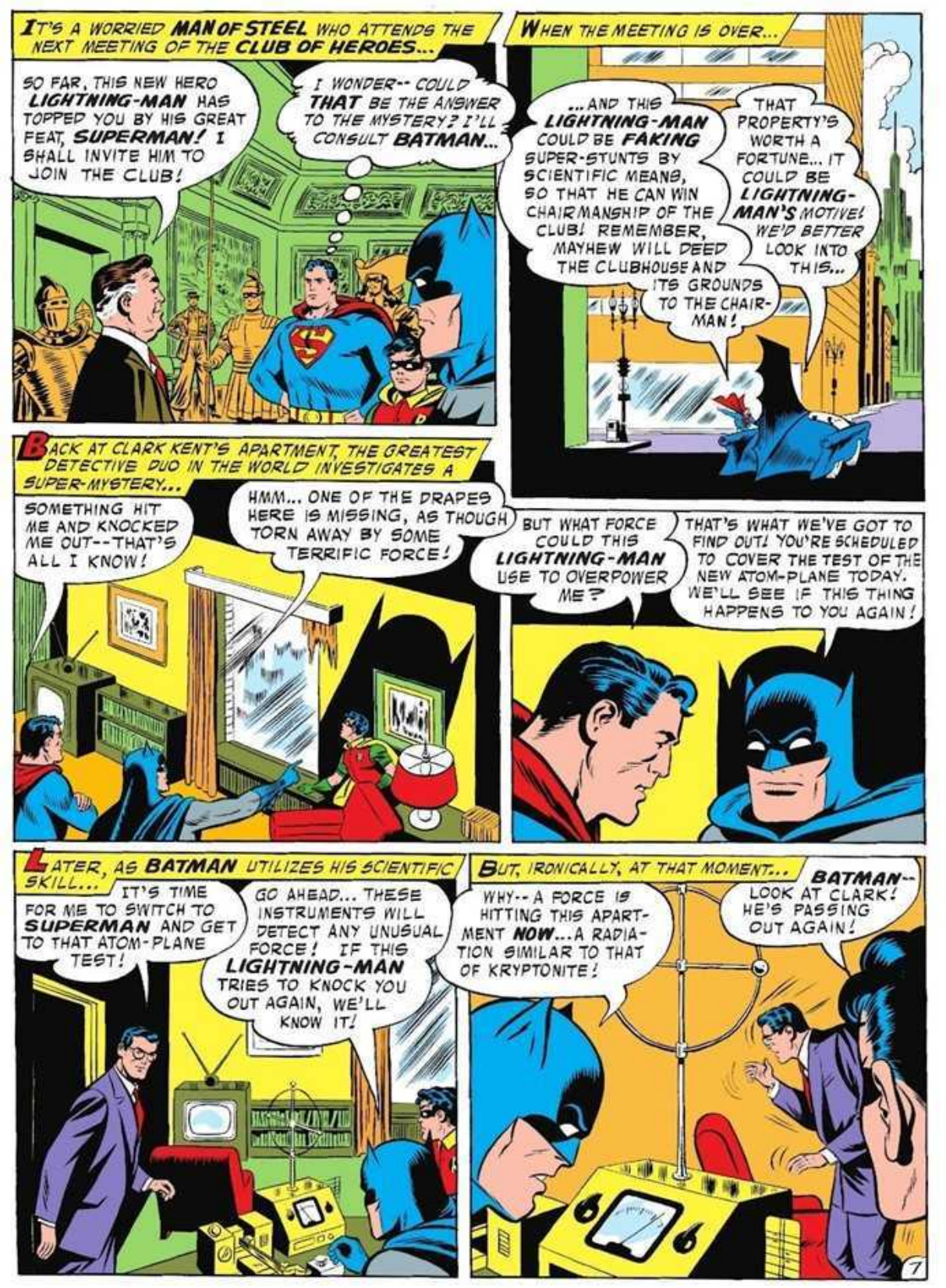
IT IS, INDEED, A GREAT OCCASION THAT GATHERS TOGETHER THE FAMOUS HEROES OF ALL LANDS...


...FOR A METROPOLIS MILLIONAIRE HAS HAD AN INSPIRATION...
GENTLEMEN, THIS IS JOHN MAYHEW, WELL-KNOWN PHILANTHROPIST! IT'S HE WHO SENT FOR US ALL!
YES--YOU'VE BEEN SUMMONED HERE TO BE HONORED FOR YOUR GREAT FEATS... I'VE BUILT THIS CLUB FOR YOU!
CLUB OF HEROES
AND INSIDE...
THIS IS THE CLUB OF HEROES--AND ALL OF YOU, BY YOUR GREAT DEEDS, BELONG TO IT! I'LL DEED IT TO WHOMEVER YOU SELECT AS CHAIRMAN!
WHAT A GIFT! THIS LAND AND BUILDING ARE WORTH A FORTUNE!
SUPERMAN IS THE LOGICAL CHOICE FOR CHAIRMAN OF THIS CLUB, SO MAKE THE DEED OUT TO HIM, MR. MAYHEW!
OH, NO--BATMAN HAS DONE TREMENDOUS FEATS, AND SO HAVE ALL THESE OTHERS! ONE OF THEM DESERVES THE HONOR!
WELL--THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO SETTLE THE MATTER... WHOEVER PERFORMS THE GREATEST FEATS IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS WILL BE YOUR CHAIRMAN!
FINE! THE VISITORS CAN STAY RIGHT HERE IN THE CLUB-HOUSE!
SPLENDIDE!
SO NEXT DAY, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN RETURN TO ACTION IN GOTHAM CITY...
WHAT HAPPENED? WE WERE JUST GONNA CRACK THAT WAREHOUSE WHEN...
THIS CARGO-NET MAKES A FINE WAY TO CATCH CROOKED FISH, BATMAN! WE CAN TAKE THEM RIGHT IN TO HEADQUARTERS!
B-6
NO, WE'LL JUST PHONE POLICE TO COME AND GET THEM! I--ER--DON'T WANT A LOT OF PUBLICITY ON THIS!
I GET IT... YOU WANT SUPERMAN TO WIN THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE HEROES' CLUB, SO YOU'LL KEEP YOUR OWN FEATS QUIET! I'M FOR IT!
3

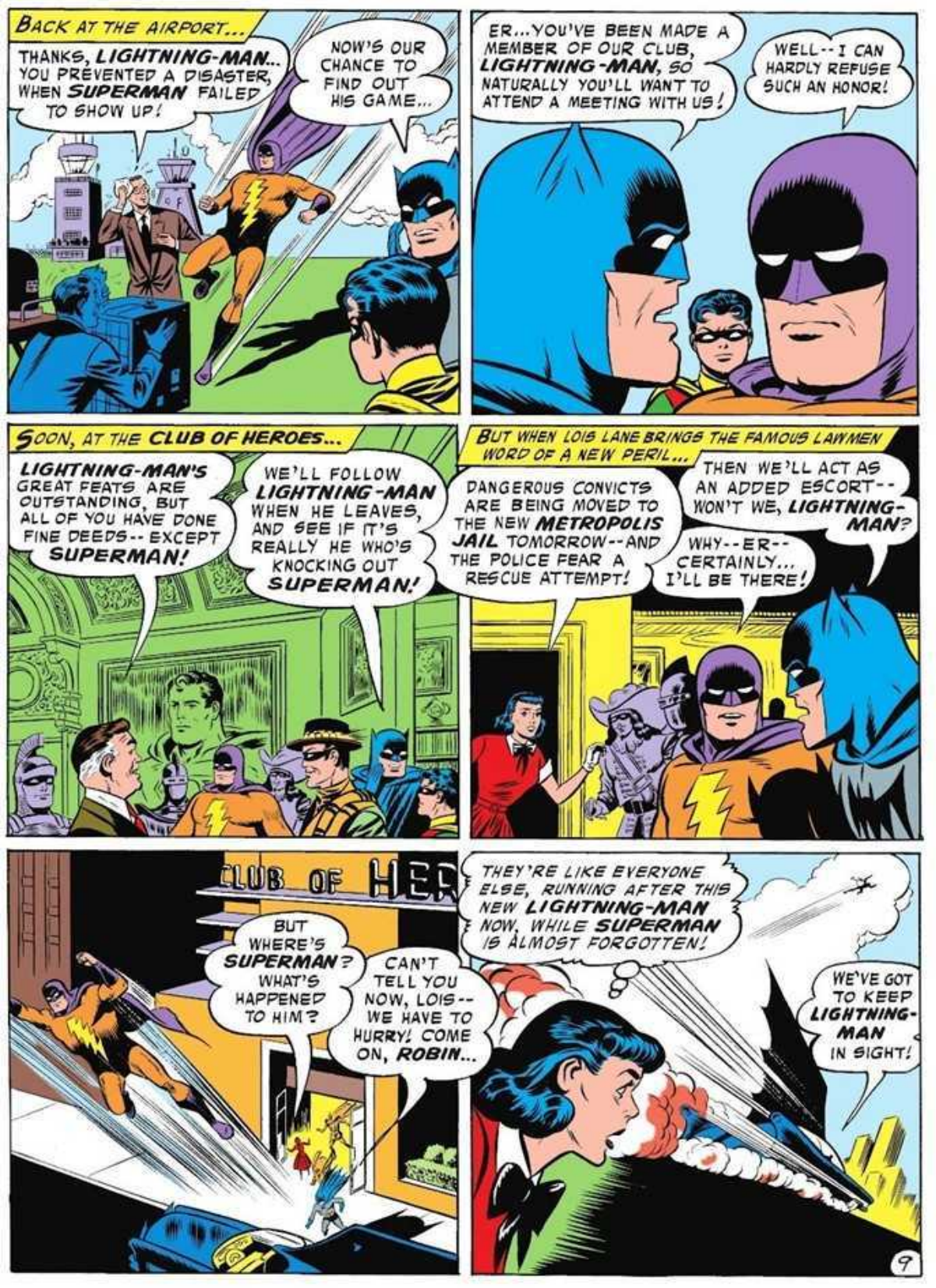
BUT OTHERS OF THE HERO-LAWMEN HAVE THE SAME IDEA, AS THEY GO INTO ACTION IN METROPOLIS...
LUCKILY, WE CAUGHT THESE THIEVES IN THE ACT-- BUT WE'LL NOT CLAIM CREDIT FOR THEIR CAPTURE!
SI! SUPERMAN OR BATMAN SHOULD WIN THE CHAIRMANSHIP, BY RIGHTS!
JEWEL
MY LANCE-VAULTING TRICK WORKS AS WELL HERE AS AT HOME... BUT IT'S NOTHING COMPARED TO SUPERMAN'S FEATS!
TRUE... WE CAN NEVER ECLIPSE HIM AND BATMAN!
Savings AND LOAN
AS FOR SUPERMAN HIMSELF, ON A HILL ROAD OUTSIDE THE CITY...
IT'LL ONLY TAKE A MINUTE TO CLEAR THE LANDSLIDE THAT BLOCKED THIS ROAD, BUT I WON'T REPORT IT! BATMAN OR ONE OF THE OTHERS SHOULD BE THE CLUB CHAIRMAN!
LATER, AFTER THE MAN OF STEEL HAS CHANGED TO CLARK KENT...
NOW TO KEEP A DATE WITH LOIS, AND... GOOD GRIEF-- I'VE NEVER HEARD SUCH LOUD THUNDER!
BUT SUDDENLY...
WHY-- WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH ME? I'M GROWING DIZZY-- THINGS GETTING DARK... AS THOUGH KRYPTONITE WERE AFFECTING ME!
NO WONDER... A CIRCLE OF THUNDERSTORMS IS BUILDING UP ALL AROUND METROPOLIS! A FORMATION LIKE THAT CAN CAUSE TORNADOES... I'D BETTER SWITCH TO SUPERMAN AND BREAK UP THOSE STORMS!
4

BUT KRYPTONITE, THE ONE COSMIC SUBSTANCE THAT CAN WEAKEN SUPERMAN, IS NOWHERE IN SIGHT...
M-MY X-RAY, TELESCOPIC VISION... SCANNING THE ENTIRE CITY... CAN'T SPOT IT--ANYWHERE! YET--I'M PASSING OUT...
AND SECONDS LATER, THE MAN WHO IS MIGHTY SUPERMAN...
...LIES MYSTERIOUSLY STRICKEN DOWN, AS PERIL RUSHES UPON METROPOLIS!
IN THE MEANTIME, WHERE LOIS LANE AWAITS CLARK...
THAT'S A POSSIBLE TORNADO STORM-PATTERN! WHY DOESN'T SUPERMAN BREAK IT UP?
DON'T WORRY--HE WILL!
JUST THEN...
AH--THERE HE... WAIT! THAT ISN'T SUPERMAN!
BUT... WHO ELSE COULD FLY LIKE THAT?
WHO INDEED, IF NOT SUPERMAN?...
HE'S EVEN MADE HIMSELF A GIANT WINDMILL TO BLOW THOSE STORMS AWAY!
AND LIGHTNING DOESN'T HURT HIM!
AFTERWARD, WITH THE STORMS DISPELLED...
YOU HAVE SUPER-POWERS, BUT NO ONE HAS EVER SEEN OR HEARD OF YOU BEFORE! WHO ARE YOU?
YOU CAN CALL ME... LIGTNING-MAN!
5

AND AS THIS NEW SUPER-HERO STREAKS AWAY...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS AT ALL! WHERE'S SUPERMAN? WHY DIDN'T HE MEET THAT DANGER, INSTEAD OF THIS NEWCOMER?
LIKE SUPERMAN, HE KEEPS HIS IDENTITY SECRET! BUT HE'S SURE TERRIFIC!
TO LEARN THE ANSWER, LOIS WOULD HAVE TO VISIT CLARK KENT'S APARTMENT, WHERE, SHORTLY AFTERWARD...
WHATEVER HAPPENED TO ME, IT REALLY KNOCKED ME OUT! I WAS JUST PREPARING TO MEET THAT STORM-DANGER... BETTER CHANGE FAST!
"...THAT BIG METEOR, CONTAINING KRYPTONITE, WHICH APPROACHED EARTH DAYS AGO!"
IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN KRYPTONITE, BECAUSE I SAW NONE FOR MILES AROUND! WHAT'S MORE, I KEEP CLOSE TRACK OF ALL KRYPTONITE DANGERS, AND THE LAST WAS...
CAN'T LET THAT METEOR REACH EARTH, OR CROOKS MIGHT GET THE KRYPTONITE ON IT, AND USE IT AGAINST ME! I'LL KNOCK IT BACK INTO SPACE...
BUT AS CLARK HASTILY SWITCHES FOR ACTION...
...AND THIS NEWS-PHOTO SHOWS HOW THE NEW HERO, LIGHTNING-MAN, DISPERSED THE TORNADO-THREAT BY SUPER-ACTION!
WHAT--? WH-WHO'S LIGHTNING-MAN? HOW DID HE GET SUPER-POWERS? AND WHAT KNOCKED ME OUT LIKE THAT?
WITHIN SECONDS, I WAS OUT OF DANGER...
THAT MOUNTAIN I THREW HIT IT AND KNOCKED IT BACK! THE METEOR WILL NEVER RETURN TO EARTH!
SO NO KRYPTONITE REACHED EARTH--WHICH MEANS SOMETHING ELSE KNOCKED ME OUT, JUST WHEN THIS NEW LIGHTNING-MAN APPEARED TO REPLACE ME! MAYBE HE DID IT TO ME--BUT HOW?... AND WHY?
6


IT'S A WORRIED MAN OF STEEL WHO ATTENDS THE NEXT MEETING OF THE CLUB OF HEROES...
SO FAR, THIS NEW HERO LIGHTNING-MAN HAS TOPPED YOU BY HIS GREAT FEAT, SUPERMAN! I SHALL INVITE HIM TO JOIN THE CLUB!
I WONDER-- COULD THAT BE THE ANSWER TO THE MYSTERY? I'LL CONSULT BATMAN...
WHEN THE MEETING IS OVER...
...AND THIS LIGHTNING-MAN COULD BE FAKING SUPER-STUNTS BY SCIENTIFIC MEANS, SO THAT HE CAN WIN CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE CLUB! REMEMBER, MAYHEW WILL DEED THE CLUBHOUSE AND ITS GROUNDS TO THE CHAIRMAN!
THAT PROPERTY'S WORTH A FORTUNE... IT COULD BE LIGHTNING-MAN'S MOTIVE! WE'D BETTER LOOK INTO THIS...
BACK AT CLARK KENT'S APARTMENT, THE GREATEST DETECTIVE DUO IN THE WORLD INVESTIGATES A SUPER-MYSTERY...
SOMETHING HIT ME AND KNOCKED ME OUT--THAT'S ALL I KNOW!
HMM... ONE OF THE DRAPES HERE IS MISSING, AS THOUGH TORN AWAY BY SOME TERRIFIC FORCE!
BUT WHAT FORCE COULD THIS LIGHTNING-MAN USE TO OVERPOWER ME?
THAT'S WHAT WE'VE GOT TO FIND OUT! YOU'RE SCHEDULED TO COVER THE TEST OF THE NEW ATOM-PLANE TODAY. WE'LL SEE IF THIS THING HAPPENS TO YOU AGAIN!
LATER, AS BATMAN UTILIZES HIS SCIENTIFIC SKILL...
IT'S TIME FOR ME TO SWITCH TO SUPERMAN AND GET TO THAT ATOM-PLANE TEST!
GO AHEAD... THESE INSTRUMENTS WILL DETECT ANY UNUSUAL FORCE! IF THIS LIGHTNING-MAN TRIES TO KNOCK YOU OUT AGAIN, WE'LL KNOW IT!
BUT, IRONICALLY, AT THAT MOMENT...
WHY--A FORCE IS HITTING THIS APARTMENT NOW...A RADIATION SIMILAR TO THAT OF KRYPTONITE!
BATMAN--LOOK AT CLARK! HE'S PASSING OUT AGAIN!
7

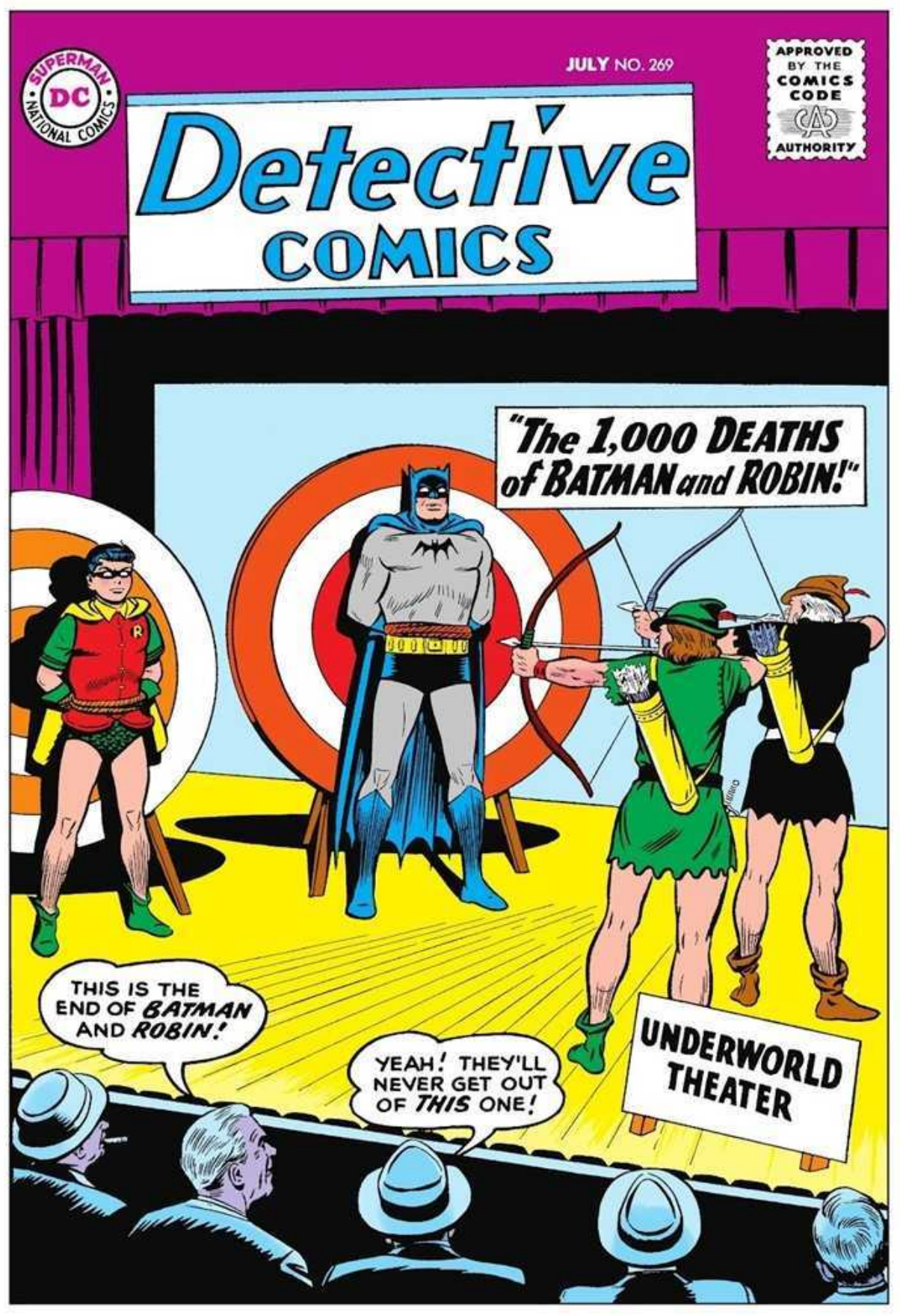
THAT PROVES IT--SOMEONE IS DELIBERATELY KNOCKING HIM OUT WITH THAT RADIATION!
AND THAT SOMEONE COULD BE LIGHTNING-MAN! COME ON... WE'LL SEE IF HE SHOWS UP AT THAT PLANE-TEST!
AND AS A BIG, NEW ATOM-POWERED PLANE IS LAUNCHED...
SINCE THE ATOM-PLANE IS REMOTE-CONTROLLED, IT HAS NO CREW IN IT TO RUN RISKS-- AND SUPERMAN AGREED TO WATCH OVER THE TEST, TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS!
THERE COME BATMAN AND ROBIN-- BUT I DON'T SEE SUPERMAN YET!
AT THAT INSTANT...
THERE HE IS!... LIGHTNING-MAN! HOW DID HE GET SUPER-POWERS?
THAT'S A MYSTERY, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S KNOCKING OUT SUPERMAN WITH RADIATION, EACH TIME, SO HE CAN PERFORM BIG FEATS!
AND AS SUDDEN DANGER ARISES...
THE POWER PLANT OF THE PLANE HAS RUN WILD... IT'LL BE A MENACE WITH ITS RADIATION IF IT CRASHES ANY-WHERE! BUT IT CAN'T HURT ME...
MOMENTS LATER, IN THE CRATER OF A LONG-EXTINCT VOLCANO...
THIS WILL BURY THE DEADLY PLANE, FOR ALL TIME, WHERE ITS RADIATION CAN'T LEAK OUT AND HARM ANYONE!
I'LL MAKE SURE IT'S SAFELY DISPOSED...

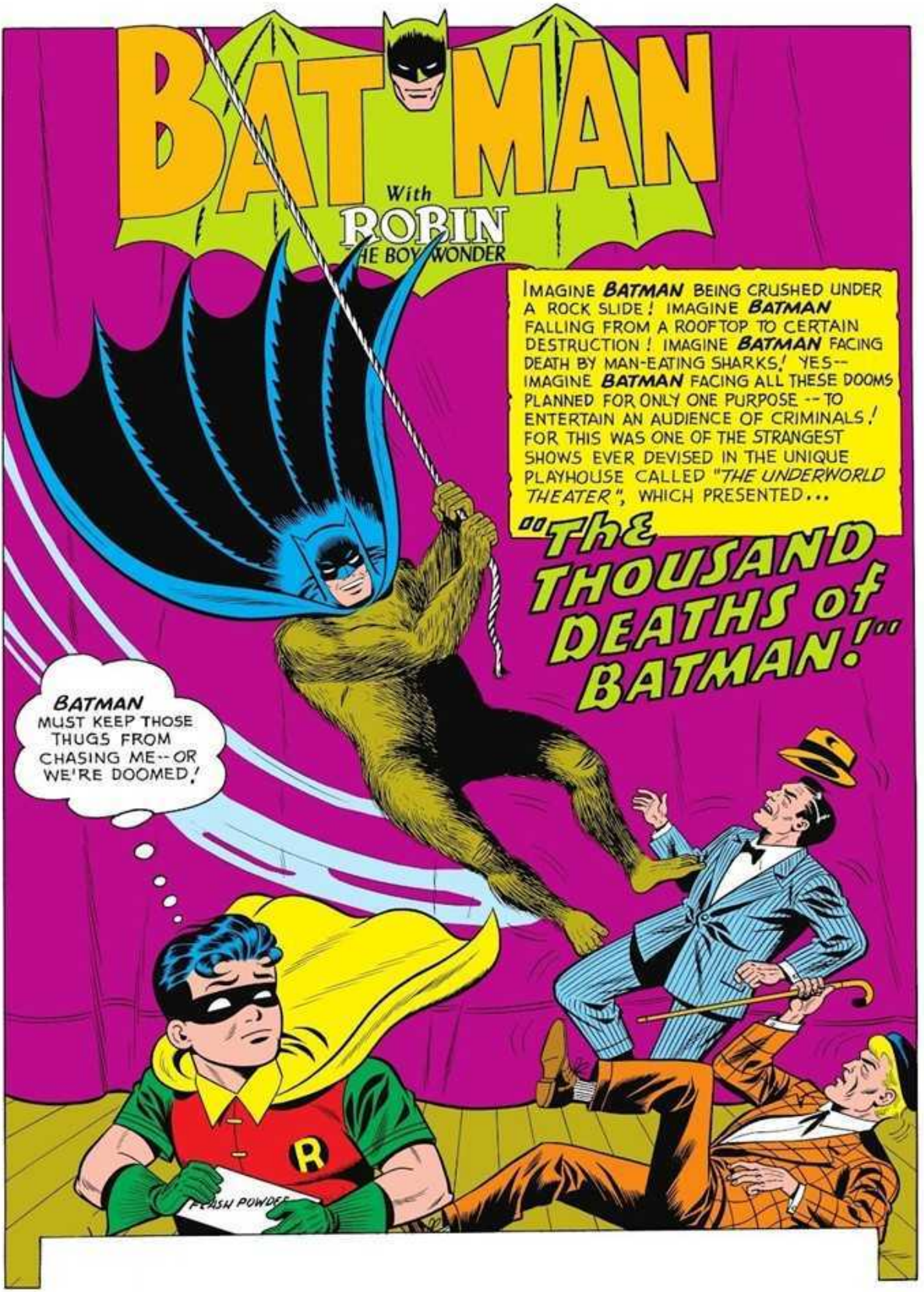

BACK AT THE AIRPORT...
THANKS, LIGHTNING-MAN... YOU PREVENTED A DISASTER, WHEN SUPERMAN FAILED TO SHOW UP!
NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO FIND OUT HIS GAME...
ER...YOU'VE BEEN MADE A MEMBER OF OUR CLUB, LIGHTNING-MAN, SO NATURALLY YOU'LL WANT TO ATTEND A MEETING WITH US!
WELL--I CAN HARDLY REFUSE SUCH AN HONOR!
SOON, AT THE CLUB OF HEROES...
LIGHTNING-MAN'S GREAT FEATS ARE OUTSTANDING, BUT ALL OF YOU HAVE DONE FINE DEEDS--EXCEPT SUPERMAN!
WE'LL FOLLOW LIGHTNING-MAN WHEN HE LEAVES, AND SEE IF IT'S REALLY HE WHO'S KNOCKING OUT SUPERMAN!
BUT WHEN LOIS LANE BRINGS THE FAMOUS LAWMEN WORD OF A NEW PERIL...
DANGEROUS CONVICTS ARE BEING MOVED TO THE NEW METROPOLIS JAIL TOMORROW--AND THE POLICE FEAR A RESCUE ATTEMPT!
THEN WE'LL ACT AS AN ADDED ESCORT--WON'T WE, LIGHTNING-MAN?
WHY--ER--CERTAINLY... I'LL BE THERE!
CLUB OF HE
BUT WHERE'S SUPERMAN? WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HIM?
CAN'T TELL YOU NOW, LOIS--WE HAVE TO HURRY! COME ON, ROBIN...
THEY'RE LIKE EVERYONE ELSE, RUNNING AFTER THIS NEW LIGHTNING-MAN NOW, WHILE SUPERMAN IS ALMOST FORGOTTEN!
WE'VE GOT TO KEEP LIGHTNING-MAN IN SIGHT!
9

BUT THE SUPER-SPEED OF THIS NEW HERO IS TOO MUCH FOR THE DYNAMIC DUO...
IT'S NO USE-- WE CAN'T FOLLOW ANYONE THAT FAST!
AND WE OUGHT TO GET BACK TO CLARK, AND SEE IF HE'S COME OUT OF IT YET!
LATER, AT CLARK KENT'S APARTMENT...
YES, I JUST CAME OUT OF MY DAZE-- IT HAPPENED JUST AS BEFORE!
AND THE MYSTERIOUS RADIATION THAT KNOCKED YOU OUT CAME AT THE SAME TIME AS BEFORE! THAT'S FUNNY!
IT MUST BE THIS LIGHTNING-MAN WHO'S KNOCKING ME OUT-- BUT HOW DOES HE DO IT?
I'VE GOT AN IDEA ABOUT THAT--SO I'M GOING TO SET UP A DIFFERENT GADGET, WHICH WILL SOLVE THE MYSTERY IF IT HAPPENS AGAIN TOMORROW!
NEXT DAY, AS THE HOUR OF DANGER APPROACHES...
I'M READY TO GO WITH YOU OTHER LAWMEN TO ESCORT THAT CONVICT-CARAVAN!
NO, SUPERMAN-- IF THAT MYSTERIOUS RADIATION HIT YOU AT THE SAME TIME TODAY, IT COULD BE DISASTROUS TO OUR ESCORT PLANS! I WANT YOU TO STAY HERE, AS CLARK KENT!
SURE... I--I DON'T BLAME YOU FOR NOT WANTING TO RELY ON ME, AFTER THE WAY I'VE FAILED EVERYONE!
IT ISN'T THAT... I'LL EXPLAIN WHEN WE RETURN!
IT'S A STRANGE FEELING FOR THE MAN OF STEEL TO SIT IDLE, WHILE OTHERS FACE DANGER...
I'VE NEVER LET PEOPLE DOWN BEFORE! BUT-- WAIT... THAT DIZZINESS IS BEGINNING AGAIN! BATMAN WAS RIGHT... I'M STARTING TO BLACK OUT!
10

MEANWHILE, WHERE FAMOUS LAWMEN ESCORT DANGEROUS CONVICTS TO A NEW PRISON...
LOOK, BATMAN-- THOSE TANKS ARE COMING OUT AT US!
CROOKS HAVE BEEN SECRETLY WAITING IN THEM, TO TRY TO RESCUE THEIR PALS! WE'VE GOT TO BREAK UP THE ATTEMPT!
METROPOLIS TANK FACTORY
MUFFLE THEIR EYE-SLIT LOOPHOLES SO THEY CAN'T SEE OUT!
OUI! THEN THEY WILL HAVE TO EMERGE IN THE OPEN!
NOW THAT YOU'VE STOPPED THEM, I'LL TAKE THEM ALONG TO PRISON FAST!
THESE STRIPS, TORN FROM OUR CAPES, WILL BLIND THE TANKS!
BUT THEY'LL COME OUT SHOOTING NOW... BE READY!
BUT BEFORE THE TANKS' OCCUPANTS CAN EMERGE...
WOW! LIGHTNING-MAN IS CLEANING THEM UP IN ONE SWOOP!
LATER, AS CLARK KENT HAS ANOTHER STRANGE AWAKENING...
IT HAPPENED AGAIN! WHO'S DOING THIS TO ME, BATMAN?
NO ONE IS DOING IT! I WANT YOU, AS SUPERMAN, TO SEARCH THE SKY BEYOND METROPOLIS!
AND VERY SOON, BACK AT THE CLUB OF HEROES...
LIGHTNING-MAN, YOUR FEATS HAVE WON YOU THE CHAIRMANSHIP-- SO I'VE DEEDED THE CLUBHOUSE PROPERTY TO YOU!
THANKS... I MUST LEAVE NOW!
NO USE FOLLOWING HIM-- WE'LL GO BACK TO SUPERMAN!
11

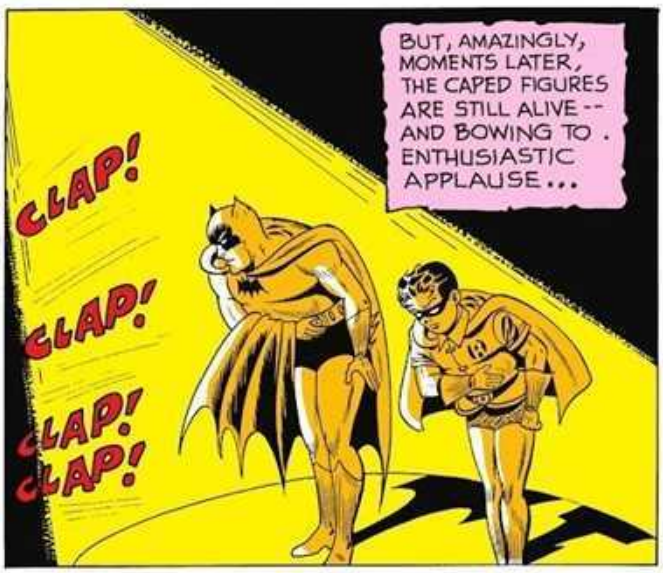
AS THE MAN OF STEEL SWIFTLY COMBS THE SKY...
WHY, THAT'S A CHIPPED-OFF FRAGMENT OF THE KRYPTONITE-ASTEROID I KNOCKED AWAY DAYS AGO! IT'S BEEN CIRCLING EARTH EVER SINCE!
AFTER BLOWING THE KRYPTONITE INTO OUTER SPACE WITH SUPER-BREATH, SUPERMAN RETURNS TO HEAR A STARTLING EXPLANATION...
THEN EVERY TIME THAT LITTLE KRYPTONITE-SATELLITE WENT OVER METROPOLIS, IT AFFECTED ME?
YES... AND IT WAS THE REGULARITY OF THE TIME THAT MADE ME SUSPECT THAT! IT DIDN'T PARALYZE YOU BUT WAS STRONG ENOUGH TO GIVE YOU AMNESIA EACH TIME!
"YET, YOUR STRONG INSTINCTS TO PREVENT DISASTER, AND TO KEEP YOUR IDENTITY SECRET, STILL MOVED YOU TO ACTION..."
HAVE TO BREAK UP THOSE TORNADO-STORMS, BUT MUSN'T LET ANYONE KNOW WHO I AM! THIS CLOTH WILL MAKE A COSTUME AND MASK FOR ME!
"AND SO, UNAWARE WHO YOU REALLY WERE, YOU YOURSELF BECAME LIGHTNING-MAN..."
JOB'S FINISHED... GOT TO HIDE THIS COSTUME! NO ONE MUST KNOW MY TRUE IDENTITY!
AND EACH TIME, WHEN THE KRYPTONITE AMNESIA-INFLUENCE PASSED AWAY, YOU COULDN'T REMEMBER THAT YOU'D BEEN LIGHTNING-MAN.
MIND'S A BLANK... MUST'VE BEEN UNCONSCIOUS ALL THAT TIME!
I FIGURED THAT WAS IT, FROM THE CLUE OF THE MISSING DRAPE-- AND PLANTED THIS AUTOMATIC CAMERA, WHICH PHOTOGRAPHED YOU CHANGING TO LIGHTNING-MAN LAST TIME!
BUT NOW THAT THE KRYPTONITE SATELLITE'S GONE, IT CAN'T HAPPEN AGAIN-AND I'LL EXPLAIN TO THE CLUB!
12
SO BACK AT THE CLUB OF HEROES, LATER...
YOU WON THE CHAIRMANSHIP FAIRLY AS LIGHTNING-MAN... SO WE INSIST THAT AS SUPERMAN, YOU KEEP IT!
I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN ALL THE TIME -- NO ONE COULD EVER TOP SUPERMAN EXCEPT HIMSELF!
THE END

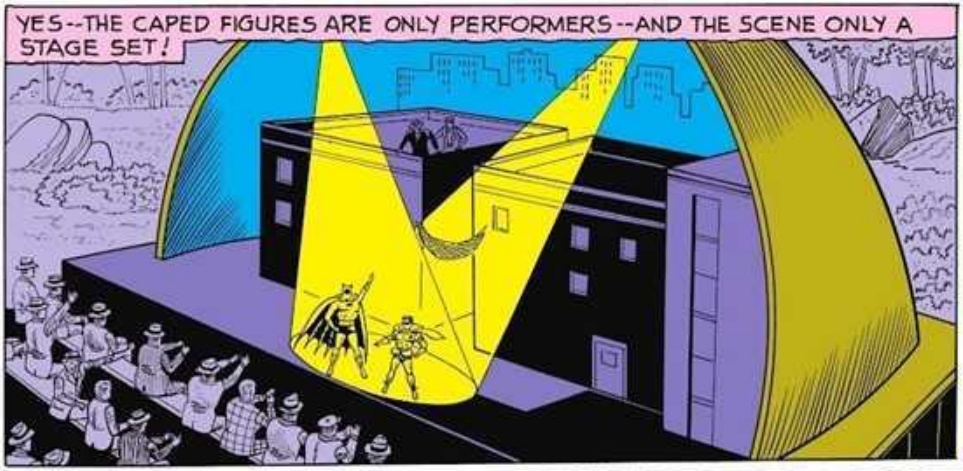

SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
JULY NO. 269
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
Detective COMICS
"The 1,000 DEATHS of BATMAN and ROBIN!"
THIS IS THE END OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!
YEAH! THEY'LL NEVER GET OUT OF THIS ONE!
UNDERWORLD THEATER


BATMAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
IMAGINE BATMAN BEING CRUSHED UNDER A ROCK SLIDE! IMAGINE BATMAN FALLING FROM A ROOFTOP TO CERTAIN DESTRUCTION! IMAGINE BATMAN FACING DEATH BY MAN-EATING SHARKS! YES--IMAGINE BATMAN FACING ALL THESE DOOMS PLANNED FOR ONLY ONE PURPOSE -- TO ENTERTAIN AN AUDIENCE OF CRIMINALS! FOR THIS WAS ONE OF THE STRANGEST SHOWS EVER DEVISED IN THE UNIQUE PLAYHOUSE CALLED "THE UNDERWORLD THEATER", WHICH PRESENTED...
"The THOUSAND DEATHS of BATMAN!"
BATMAN MUST KEEP THOSE THUGS FROM CHASING ME--OR WE'RE DOOMED!
R
FLASH POWDER

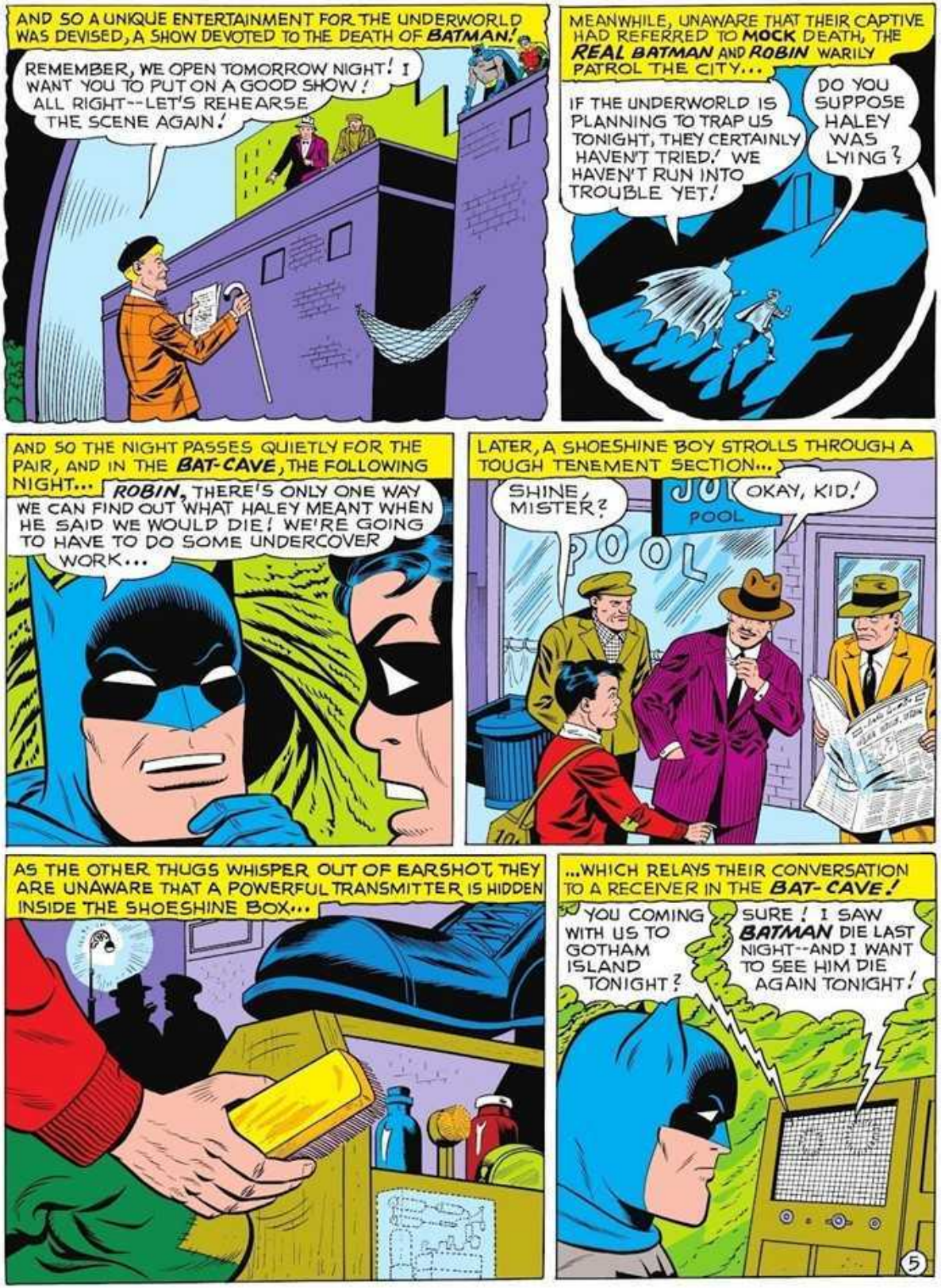
NIGHTFALL -- AND TWO MANTLED CHAMPIONS OF JUSTICE SCAN THE CITY BELOW, ALERT FOR CRIMINALS ON THE PROWL...
SUDDENLY, BOTH UNCOIL SILKEN LASSOES AND ARC ACROSS THE VOID...
DOWN THEY PLUMMET, TOWARD THIEVES INTENT ON LOOTING THE GOTHAM CAMERA COMPANY...
BATMAN AND ROBIN!
WE'VE FINALLY CORNERED SOME OF THE GREEN HOOD MOB!
WITH THE IMPACT OF A SLEDGE HAMMER, BATMAN'S FIST SHOOTS OUT...
THEN HE JOINS ROBIN IN PURSUIT OF THE OTHER ESCAPING BANDITS...
OKAY, FELLERS -- JUMP!
ABRUPTLY, THE THREE THUGS BREAK LOOSE AND LEAP TO A HAY-FILLED TRUCK DRIVEN BY A HENCHMAN!
THEY HAD THIS ESCAPE PRE-ARRANGED!
WE'LL NEVER CATCH UP WITH THEM NOW!
2

AT LEAST WE'VE STILL GOT THE ONE YOU KAYOED! MAYBE HE'LL TALK AND TELL HIS BOSS'S NAME!
IF HE DOES, WE'LL FINALLY KNOW THE IDENTITY OF THE BIG GUY--THE MAN WHO HAS BECOME THE NEW BOSS OF THE UNDERWORLD!
LATER, AFTER THE THUG IS BROUGHT TO JAIL...
TALK! WHO'S THE BIG GUY?
I AIN'T TALKING!
ALL RIGHT, HALEY, WE'LL LOCK YOU UP AND HOLD YOU FOR TRIAL!
TOO BAD! I'LL MISS SEEING BATMAN AND ROBIN DIE TOMORROW NIGHT!
BATMAN -- DID YOU HEAR THAT?
YES! GANGLAND MUST BE PLANNING A TRAP FOR US! WE'D BETTER BE ON OUR GUARD WHEN WE'RE ON PATROL TOMORROW NIGHT!
AND SO, THE NEXT NIGHT AS TWO FAMILIAR FIGURES SWING TOWARDS A PAIR OF BANDITS...
BATMAN AND ROBIN! BUT THIS TIME WE'RE READY FOR THEM!
SUDDENLY, THE THUGS WHIP UP SMALL FLAME-THROWERS, AND...
BURNED RIGHT THROUGH THEIR ROPES!
THEY'LL DROP 15 STORIES TO THE STREET BELOW! BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE FINISHED FOR GOOD!
3





WHAT IS THIS STRANGE PLACE? HOW DID IT COME ABOUT? FOR THE ANSWER, LET US GO BACK WEEKS BEFORE...


AND SO A UNIQUE ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE UNDERWORLD WAS DEVISED, A SHOW DEVOTED TO THE DEATH OF BATMAN!
REMEMBER, WE OPEN TOMORROW NIGHT! I WANT YOU TO PUT ON A GOOD SHOW! ALL RIGHT--LET'S REHEARSE THE SCENE AGAIN!
MEANWHILE, UNAWARE THAT THEIR CAPTIVE HAD REFERRED TO MOCK DEATH, THE REAL BATMAN AND ROBIN WARILY PATROL THE CITY...
IF THE UNDERWORLD IS PLANNING TO TRAP US TONIGHT, THEY CERTAINLY HAVEN'T TRIED! WE HAVEN'T RUN INTO TROUBLE YET!
DO YOU SUPPOSE HALEY WAS LYING?
AND SO THE NIGHT PASSES QUIETLY FOR THE PAIR, AND IN THE BAT-CAVE, THE FOLLOWING NIGHT...
ROBIN, THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY WE CAN FIND OUT WHAT HALEY MEANT WHEN HE SAID WE WOULD DIE! WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DO SOME UNDERCOVER WORK...
LATER, A SHOESHINE BOY STROLLS THROUGH A TOUGH TENEMENT SECTION...
SHINE, MISTER?
POOL
OKAY, KID!
AS THE OTHER THUGS WHISPER OUT OF EARSHOT, THEY ARE UNAWARE THAT A POWERFUL TRANSMITTER IS HIDDEN INSIDE THE SHOESHINE BOX...
...WHICH RELAYS THEIR CONVERSATION TO A RECEIVER IN THE BAT-CAVE!
YOU COMING WITH US TO GOTHAM ISLAND TONIGHT?
SURE! I SAW BATMAN DIE LAST NIGHT--AND I WANT TO SEE HIM DIE AGAIN TONIGHT!
5

LATER, HIS MISSION COMPLETED, THE "SHOE-SHINE" BOY DOFFS HIS DISGUISE AND ASSUMES HIS ROBIN IDENTITY...
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
TO GOTHAM ISLAND! I WANT TO FIND OUT HOW THE UNDERWORLD CAN SEE US DIE!
SHINE 10¢
SHORTLY AFTER, THE ACTORS AGAIN PERFORM FOR THEIR UNDERWORLD AUDIENCE...
WE'VE GOT THEM OUTNUMBERED! SHOVE THEM OVER THE EDGE!
NOW I'LL PUSH THE SWITCH THAT OPENS THE GORILLA'S CAGE!
BATMAN AND ROBIN WILL BE STUNNED WHEN THEY HIT THE GROUND! THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO GET AWAY FROM THE GORILLA IN TIME!
ROBIN, I HURT MY LEG! I CAN'T MOVE--AND THE GORILLA'S REACHING FOR ME!
OH, NO-- NO--
OH, THE GORILLA HAS KILLED BATMAN! BATMAN IS DEAD!
WHAT A SHOW!
HOORAY!
AND AS THE ACTORS TAKE THEIR BOWS, THEY ARE UNAWARE OF THE GATE-CRASHERS NEARBY...
WELL, BATMAN-- NOW WE KNOW!
YES ROBIN--AND I MUST ADMIT IT WAS VERY STRANGE TO WATCH MY OWN "DEATH"! SHH, LISTEN TO THOSE TWO MEN...
6

HOW COME THE BIG GUY HASN'T BEEN HERE YET TO SEE THE SHOW?
THE BIG GUY'S IN BED WITH A COLD! HE'LL BE HERE WHEN HE GETS OVER IT!

BATMAN, THE BIG GUY IS GOING TO BE HERE FOR A FUTURE SHOW.
YES--AND THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY WE CAN BE AROUND WHEN HE'S HERE!

LATER, IN THE DRESSING ROOM OF THE TWO CRIMINAL ACTORS WHO PORTRAY BATMAN AND ROBIN...
TOO BAD WE'RE WANTED IN A COUPLA STATES, SHORTY--WE MIGHT'VE BEEN STARS!
YEAH, JOE--IF SOME HOLLYWOOD SCOUT COULD EVER SEE US, HE'D REALIZE WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF TALENT!

DON'T WORRY--YOUR TALENT WILL BE ON DISPLAY AT SOME PRISON SHOWS!

NOW LET'S SLIP THEM OFF THIS ISLAND--AND TAKE THEIR PLACES HERE! NOBODY'LL KNOW IT, BUT, FROM NOW ON, THE REAL BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE JOINED THE CAST!

AND SO AT THE NEXT DAY'S REHEARSAL, THE DIRECTOR IS UNAWARE THAT HE IS COACHING THE FAMED CRIME-FIGHTERS...
NO-NO-NO! CAN'T YOU AVOID BEING SO CLUMSY? CAN'T YOU ACT ANY BETTER THAN THAT?
THE DIRECTOR DOESN'T KNOW IT--BUT THAT'S A REALLY GOOD ACT BATMAN IS PUTTING ON IMITATING THE FAKE BATMAN!

EACH NIGHT THAT FOLLOWS, THE REAL BATMAN AND ROBIN GO TO THEIR FAKE "DEATHS"--FROM PAPIER-MACHÉ "ARROW-HEADS"...
...TO MOTOR-DRIVEN PROP "SHARKS"...
... AND A PAPIER-MACHÉ "ROCK" SLIDE...
FINALLY, ONE DAY, COMES THE ANNOUNCEMENT BATMAN IS WAITING FOR...
BOYS, I'M PROUD TO SAY THE BIG GUY HIMSELF WILL BE AT TONIGHT'S PERFORMANCE--SO I WANT YOU TO PUT ON A GOOD SHOW! TO MAKE SURE OF IT, WE'RE GOING TO REHEARSE ALL DAY! NOBODY LEAVES THE ISLAND!
AND SO THE HOURS PASS REHEARSING THE NEXT "DEATH"...
AS YOU LEAP FROM THE STEAM SHOVEL, YOU DON'T KNOW THE WIRE FENCE IS "ELECTRIFIED"! AS THE "CURRENT" HITS YOU, YOU ARE "ELECTROCUTED"! A PHONOGRAPH RECORD PLAYS A BUZZING NOISE THAT SOUNDS LIKE ELECTRICAL CURRENT!
LATER, A STAGE HAND INDULGES IN A LITTLE HORSE PLAY BY SWITCHING ON A WIND MACHINE...
HAW! HAW! BETTER HOLD ONTO SOMETHIN', SHORTY--OR YOU'LL BE BLOWN RIGHT INTO THE BAY!
YOU! STOP THAT FAN! I WARNED YOU ABOUT CLOWNING AROUND THE LAST TIME!
8

AFTERWARD...
LISTEN, A FEW DAYS AGO, WHEN I TURNED ON THAT WIND MACHINE, IT BLEW OFF SHORTY'S WIG--BUT IT DIDN'T HAPPEN THIS TIME!
WHAT'S THAT? ONLY REAL HAIR WOULD BE ABLE TO STAY PUT UNDER THAT TERRIFIC WIND! I WONDER...?
REHEARSALS OVER, BATMAN AND ROBIN RETIRE TO THEIR DRESSING ROOM...
ROBIN, OUR ORIGINAL PLAN WAS TO LEAVE THIS ISLAND TODAY AND RETURN FOR THE NIGHT'S SHOW--AS WE ALWAYS DO! BUT NOW WE SHOULD TELL THE HARBOR POLICE, WHOM WE'VE ALERTED, TO SURROUND THE ISLAND WHEN THE BIG GUY APPEARS...
AS BATMAN AND ROBIN TALK, THEY ARE UNAWARE THAT THE SUSPICIOUS DIRECTOR HAS HIDDEN A LISTENING DEVICE IN THEIR ROOM...
BUT WE CAN'T DO THAT NOW, BATMAN! THE DIRECTOR ORDERED THAT NO ONE LEAVE THE ISLAND! HE POSTED GUARDS TO WATCH ALL THE BOATS!
I KNOW, ROBIN! I'LL HAVE TO THINK OF SOME PLAN LATER!
THAT NIGHT, WHEN THE BIG GUY ARRIVES, THE DIRECTOR EXPLAINS THE SITUATION...
SO, THEY'RE THE REAL BATMAN AND ROBIN, EH?
YEAH, BUT THEY DON'T KNOW I KNOW--SO I FIXED THINGS! TONIGHT'S SHOW WON'T BE A FAKE! BATMAN AND ROBIN WILL REALLY DIE!
LATER...
THAT MUST BE THE BIG GUY--THE ONE SITTING WITH THE DIRECTOR!
NOW OUR BIG PROBLEM IS--HOW CAN WE TAKE HIM WITH THAT MOB OF THUGS AROUND HIM? IF ONLY WE COULD SIGNAL THE HARBOR POLICE SOMEHOW...?
THE CURTAIN RISES--THE PLAY BEGINS, WITH BATMAN AND ROBIN UNAWARE THAT THEY ARE TO GO TO THEIR REAL DOOM!
HERE WE GO! THIS IS OUR CUE TO JUMP TO THE FENCE!
IS THIS TRULY TO BE THE END OF BATMAN AND ROBIN? CAN ANYTHING SAVE THEM NOW?

ABRUPTLY, A FLY WINGS ONTO THE SCENE, AND AS IT ALIGHTS ON THE FENCE, THERE IS A TINY SPARK OF ELECTRICITY!
GREAT SCOTT! THAT FENCE IS REALLY ELECTRIFIED!
SSSTT!
QUICKLY, BATMAN GLANCES AT THE FACES OF THE DIRECTOR AND THE BIG GUY, NOTES THE EXPECTANT LOOK IN THEIR EYES...
THEY'RE WAITING FOR US TO JUMP TO THE FENCE! THEY KNOW WE'RE THE GENUINE BATMAN AND ROBIN!
AT A WHISPERED COMMAND, ROBIN LEAPS WITH BATMAN INTO THE CAB, AND A MOMENT LATER...
NOW THE FENCE IS SHORT-CIRCUITED!
CRASH!
CRACKLE!
HEY! THAT WAS REAL ELECTRICITY!
YEAH--AND THAT'S THE REAL BATMAN AND ROBIN! GET 'EM!
STEEL SLUGS CLANG ON THE CAB AS BATMAN SENDS THE STEAM SHOVEL ROLLING...
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
SWINGING IT ABOUT-- INTO THE HUGE "SHARK" TANK...
CRASH!
HEY!
WHAT..?!!
10

AND IN THE ENSUING CONFUSION...
LOOK, ROBIN --THE FLASH POWDER THAT WAS TO BE USED TO SIMULATE AN "EXPLOSION" FOR TOMORROW NIGHT'S PERFORMANCE! GRAB IT AND SCOOT OUT OF HERE! I'LL HOLD OFF THE MOBSTERS!
FLASH POWDER
AS ROBIN RACES AWAY...
THESE TARGETS THAT ONCE HELPED US "DIE"--NOW WILL HELP US LIVE!
THEN, LEAPING ONTO A DANGLING SANDBAG...
CAN'T HOLD THEM OFF MUCH LONGER... HOPE ROBIN HAS GOTTEN AWAY SAFELY!
THERE HE GOES--INTO THAT ROOM! WE'VE GOT HIM TRAPPED NOW!
BUT MOMENTS LATER...
YOW! A GORILLA!
LEMME OUTA HERE!
THE BIG GUY'S MOB NEVER SAW THE FAKE GORILLA SCENE--SO THEY DON'T KNOW I'M WEARING A COSTUME! IT SHOULD DISTRACT THEM LONG ENOUGH FOR ROBIN TO IGNITE THAT FLASH POWDER!
MEANWHILE...
LOOK! A FLARE NEAR THE SHORE! IT MAY BE A SIGNAL FROM BATMAN!
11

BATMAN

With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

The Bat-Family

Never have DC's top two characters been so close as they were during the 1950s. Yes, they worked cases and fought the good fight together in *World's Finest Comics*, but their paths were intertwined in other ways as well.

One of the strengths of the Superman comics was (and is) the supporting characters. Lois Lane, Jimmy Olsen, Perry White, Lex Luthor, and a host of others made for an interesting and entertaining Superman "family." This cast not only filled out Superman's world, but they lent themselves to infinite new story ideas.

Batman, on the other hand, had only his sidekick, Robin; his butler, Alfred; and Commissioner James Gordon to keep him company. But that was to change in the 1950s. Several attempts—some intriguing, some bizarre—were made to beef up Batman's world.

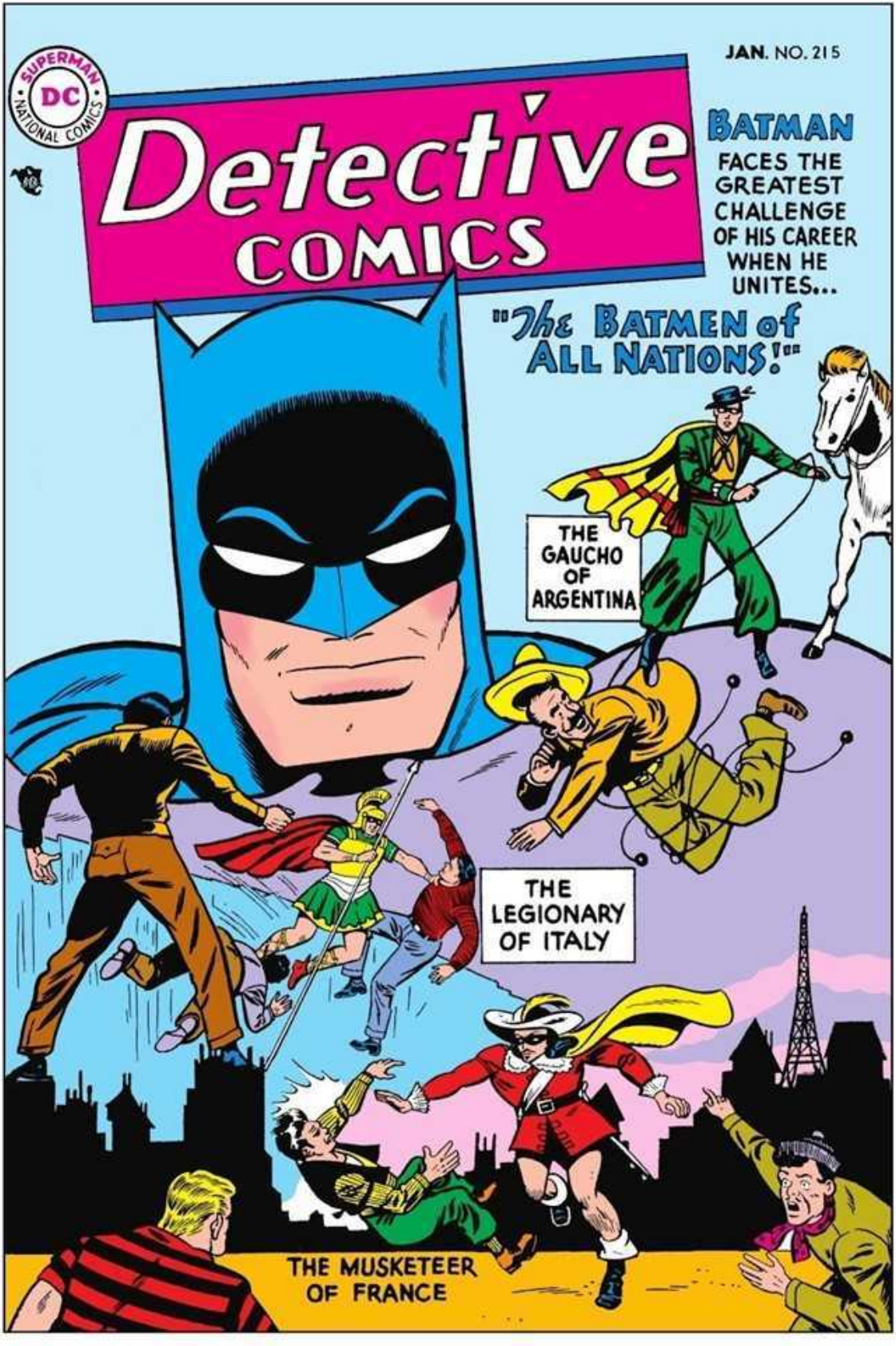
Ace the Bat-Hound first joined the team in June of 1955 (*Batman* #92). An obvious attempt to capture the magic of everybody's favorite comic book dog, Krypto, Ace was a non-super-powered pooch who looked an awful lot like TV's Rin Tin Tin. Ace was rescued by the Dynamic Duo after his master was kidnapped. Since Ace insisted on following our heroes as they went about their crime-fighting business, it was decided that it would be better if he wore a mask, so that nobody would recognize him. Ace handled himself well, and even after he was eventually returned to his owner, he was given an open invitation to take up the mantle of the Bat-Hound, which he did more than once. By 1959, he'd taken up permanent residence in Wayne Manor.

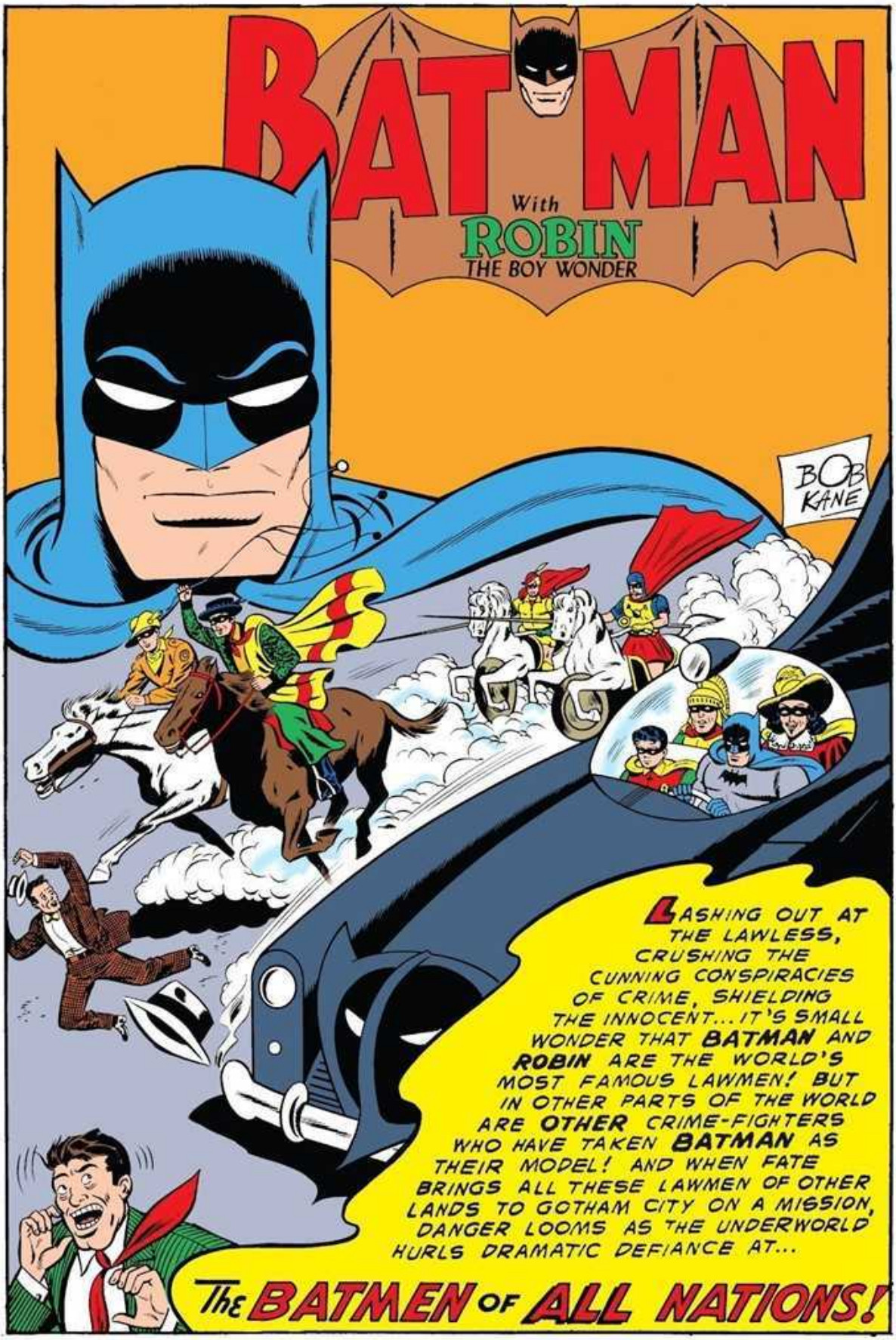
Bat-Mite (*Detective Comics* #267) was another close-but-not-exact doppelgänger of a Superman regular: Mr. Mxyzptlk. Batman's extradimensional imp, however, was not quite as malevolent as his bowler-wearing counterpart. Bat-Mite actually liked Batman—a lot! He loved watching his favorite hero in action. Unfortunately, that often meant causing trouble and endangering innocent bystanders just so Batman could entertain him.

Kathy Kane, on the other hand, beat the Super-Family to the punch. Three years before there was a Supergirl, Batwoman burst onto the scene (*Detective Comics* #233). She was a former circus acrobat who used her athletic skills and a rather sizable inheritance to help her join the Bat-Team…whether they liked it or not. While neither Batman nor Robin was initially thrilled with a new masked vigilante swooping in on their cases, they eventually learned to work with her. Though Batwoman appeared convinced to leave the crime-fighting to the boys after her first adventure (for her own safety, of course), she eventually donned the mask and cape again and became a regular fixture in the Bat-books.

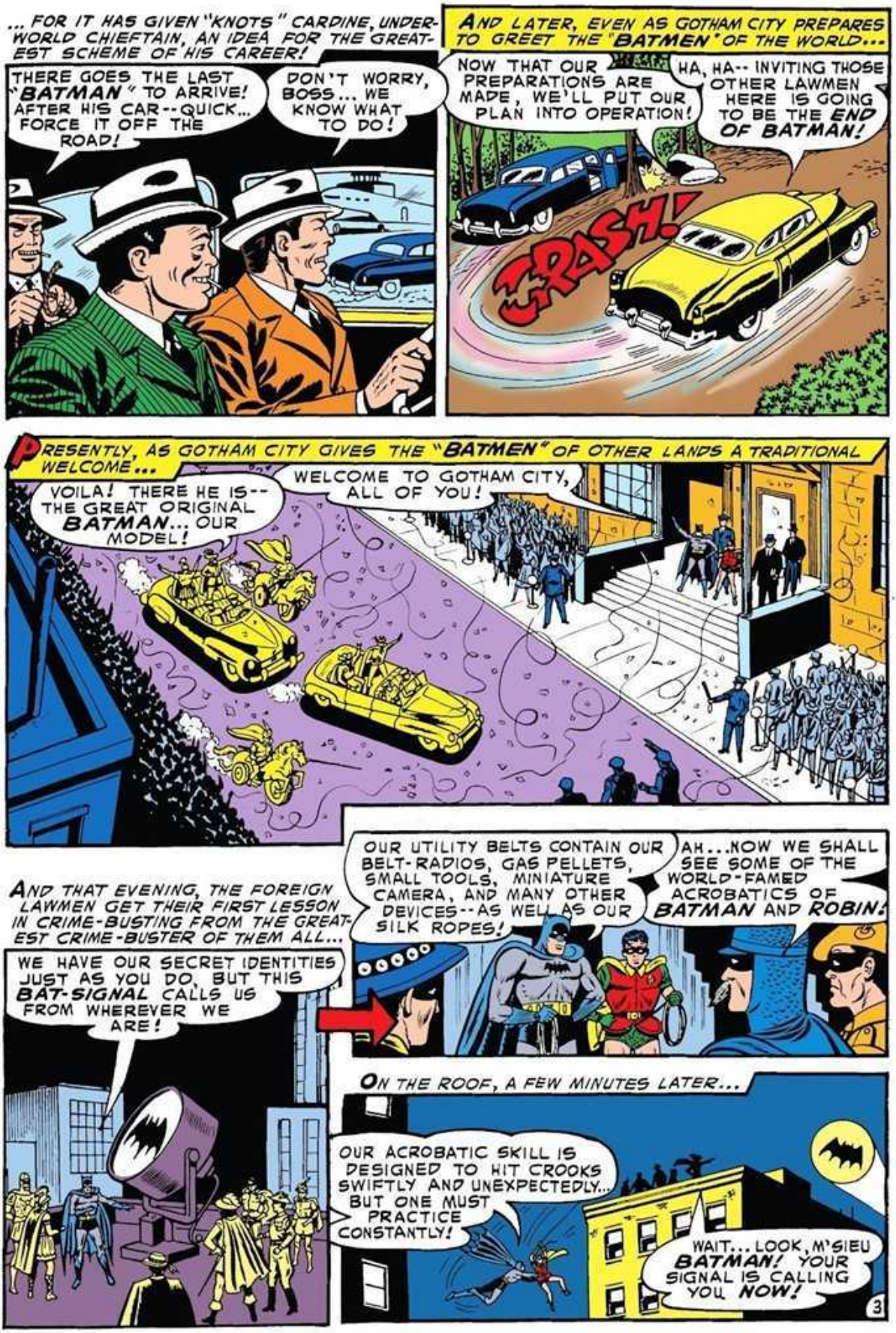
Lastly, there was Mogo the Bat-Ape (*Batman* #114), who was…well, just plain silly.

AS...
THE BAT-APE
BOB KANE


SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
JAN. NO. 215
Detective COMICS
BATMAN FACES THE GREATEST CHALLENGE OF HIS CAREER WHEN HE UNITES...
"The BATMEN of ALL NATIONS!"
THE GAUCHO OF ARGENTINA
THE LEGIONARY OF ITALY
THE MUSKETEER OF FRANCE

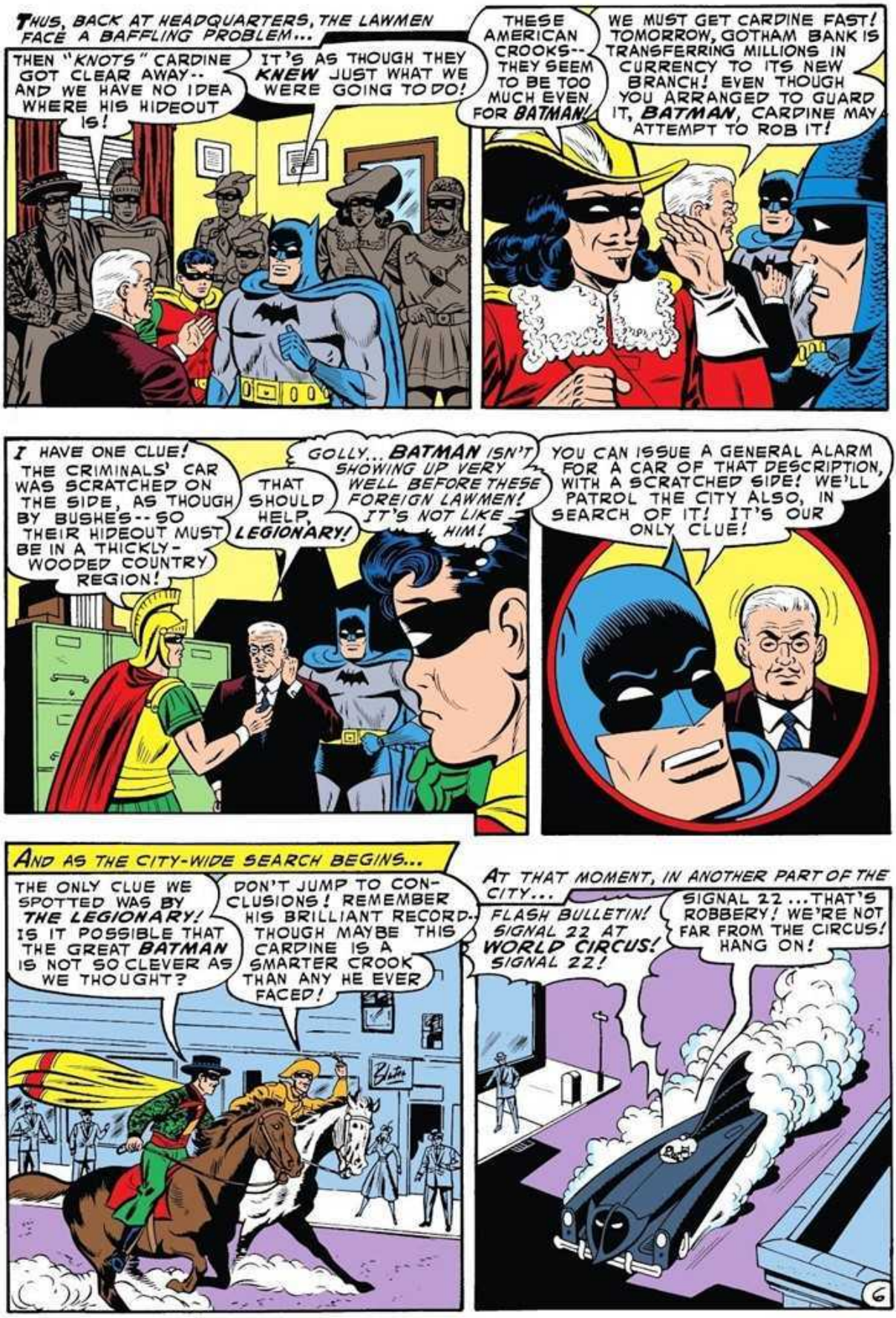

BATMAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
BOB KANE
LASHING OUT AT THE LAWLESS, CRUSHING THE CUNNING CONSPIRACIES OF CRIME, SHIELDING THE INNOCENT... IT'S SMALL WONDER THAT BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS LAWMEN! BUT IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD ARE OTHER CRIME-FIGHTERS WHO HAVE TAKEN BATMAN AS THEIR MODEL! AND WHEN FATE BRINGS ALL THESE LAWMEN OF OTHER LANDS TO GOTHAM CITY ON A MISSION, DANGER LOOMS AS THE UNDERWORLD HURLS DRAMATIC DEFIANCE AT...
The BATMEN OF ALL NATIONS!

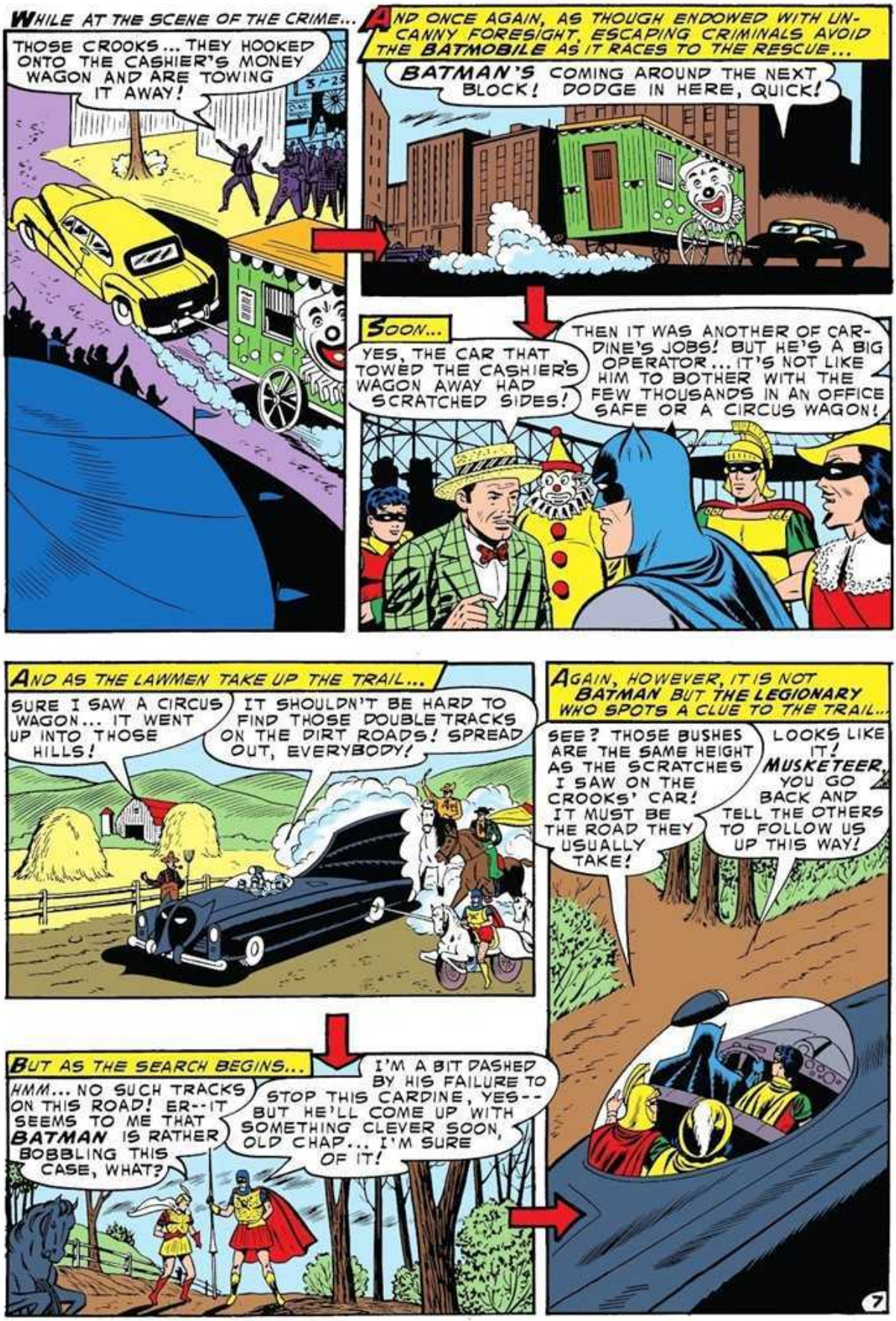
BATMAN! IT'S A MAGIC NAME, INSPIRING MEN IN MANY LANDS--LIKE THE EARL OF WORDENSHIRE AND HIS SON, IN FARAWAY ENGLAND...
LISTEN--THE RECTORY BELL... THE SIGNAL THAT CRIME HAS STRUCK! QUICK-- WE MUST BECOME THE KNIGHT AND THE SQUIRE TO STOP IT!
JUST AS BATMAN AND ROBIN, OUR MODELS, ANSWER THEIR BAT-SIGNAL!
MINUTES LATER, AS ENGLISH ROBBERS ATTEMPT A GETAWAY...
THE KNIGHT AND THE SQUIRE, ON THEIR MOTOR-CYCLE "HORSES"! WE'RE CAUGHT COLD-- WE SURRENDER!
WE GOT THEM--BUT BATMAN WOULD HAVE CAUGHT THEM FASTER! HOW I'D LIKE TO SEE HIS METHODS IN ACTION, IN AMERICA!
NOR ARE THESE ENGLISH "BATMEN" THE ONLY ONES WHO WISH THAT! IN FRANCE, IT'S THAT SECRET-IDENTITY LAWMAN KNOWN ONLY AS--THE MUSKETEER...
IT'S THAT CURSED MUSKETEER, WHO IMITATES THE AMERICAN BATMAN!
"IMITATES" IS CORRECT! BUT SOMEDAY I SHALL LEARN HOW THE REAL BATMAN OPERATES!
AND IN ROME, THAT DREADED FOE OF CRIME WHO WEARS A COSTUME OF THE ANCIENT PAST AS...
THE LEGIONARY! HE'S COME AGAIN FROM NOWHERE!
VAULTING ON MY LANCE HELPS--BUT I WISH I KNEW HOW BATMAN AND ROBIN DO IT!
EVEN IN DISTANT SOUTH AMERICA, THE GREAT BATMAN HAS FOUND A FOLLOWER...
THE GAUCHO AND HIS BOLO! HE'S AN EXPERT WITH IT!
BUT BATMAN, THEY SAY, IS EVEN MORE EXPERT WITH HIS BAT-BOLO! SOME DAY I SHALL SEE HIM!
IN FARAWAY AUSTRALIA, FINALLY, A "BATMAN" CALLED THE RANGER COMES UP WITH A PLAN...
THAT'S THE LAST OF THE DIGGER MOB YOU'VE ROUNDED UP, RANGER!
BUT BATMAN'S METHODS WOULD HAVE MADE THE JOB EASIER! I'M GOING TO WRITE AND ASK HIM IF HE'LL BRIEF US OTHER LAWMEN IN HIS CRIME-FIGHTING METHODS!
ALWAYS READY TO COOPERATE WITH OTHER LAWMEN, THE ORIGINAL BATMAN ANSWERS PROMPTLY...
BATMAN INVITED ALL THESE OTHER LAWMEN TO COME HERE TO GOTHAM CITY AND LEARN HIS METHODS!
WOW! WITH THAT BUNCH OF WORLD LAWMEN HERE, CRIME WILL BE SCARED OUT!
BATMEN OF ALL NATIONS GATHER HERE
YET NO ONE DREAMS THAT THIS GATHERING OF "BATMEN" WILL CAUSE UNPRECEDENTED CRIME...
2


... FOR IT HAS GIVEN "KNOTS" CARDINE, UNDERWORLD CHIEFTAIN, AN IDEA FOR THE GREATEST SCHEME OF HIS CAREER!
THERE GOES THE LAST "BATMAN" TO ARRIVE! AFTER HIS CAR--QUICK... FORCE IT OFF THE ROAD!
DON'T WORRY, BOSS... WE KNOW WHAT TO DO!
AND LATER, EVEN AS GOTHAM CITY PREPARES TO GREET THE "BATMEN" OF THE WORLD...
NOW THAT OUR PREPARATIONS ARE MADE, WE'LL PUT OUR PLAN INTO OPERATION!
HA, HA-- INVITING THOSE OTHER LAWMEN HERE IS GOING TO BE THE END OF BATMAN!
CRASH!
PRESENTLY, AS GOTHAM CITY GIVES THE "BATMEN" OF OTHER LANDS A TRADITIONAL WELCOME...
VOILA! THERE HE IS-- THE GREAT ORIGINAL BATMAN... OUR MODEL!
WELCOME TO GOTHAM CITY, ALL OF YOU!
AND THAT EVENING, THE FOREIGN LAWMEN GET THEIR FIRST LESSON IN CRIME-BUSTING FROM THE GREATEST CRIME-BUSTER OF THEM ALL...
OUR UTILITY BELTS CONTAIN OUR BELT-RADIOS, GAS PELLETS, SMALL TOOLS, MINIATURE CAMERA, AND MANY OTHER DEVICES--AS WELL AS OUR SILK ROPES!
AH...NOW WE SHALL SEE SOME OF THE WORLD-FAMED ACROBATICS OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!
WE HAVE OUR SECRET IDENTITIES JUST AS YOU DO, BUT THIS BAT-SIGNAL CALLS US FROM WHEREVER WE ARE!
ON THE ROOF, A FEW MINUTES LATER...
OUR ACROBATIC SKILL IS DESIGNED TO HIT CROOKS SWIFTLY AND UNEXPECTEDLY... BUT ONE MUST PRACTICE CONSTANTLY!
WAIT... LOOK, M'SIEU BATMAN! YOUR SIGNAL IS CALLING YOU NOW!
3

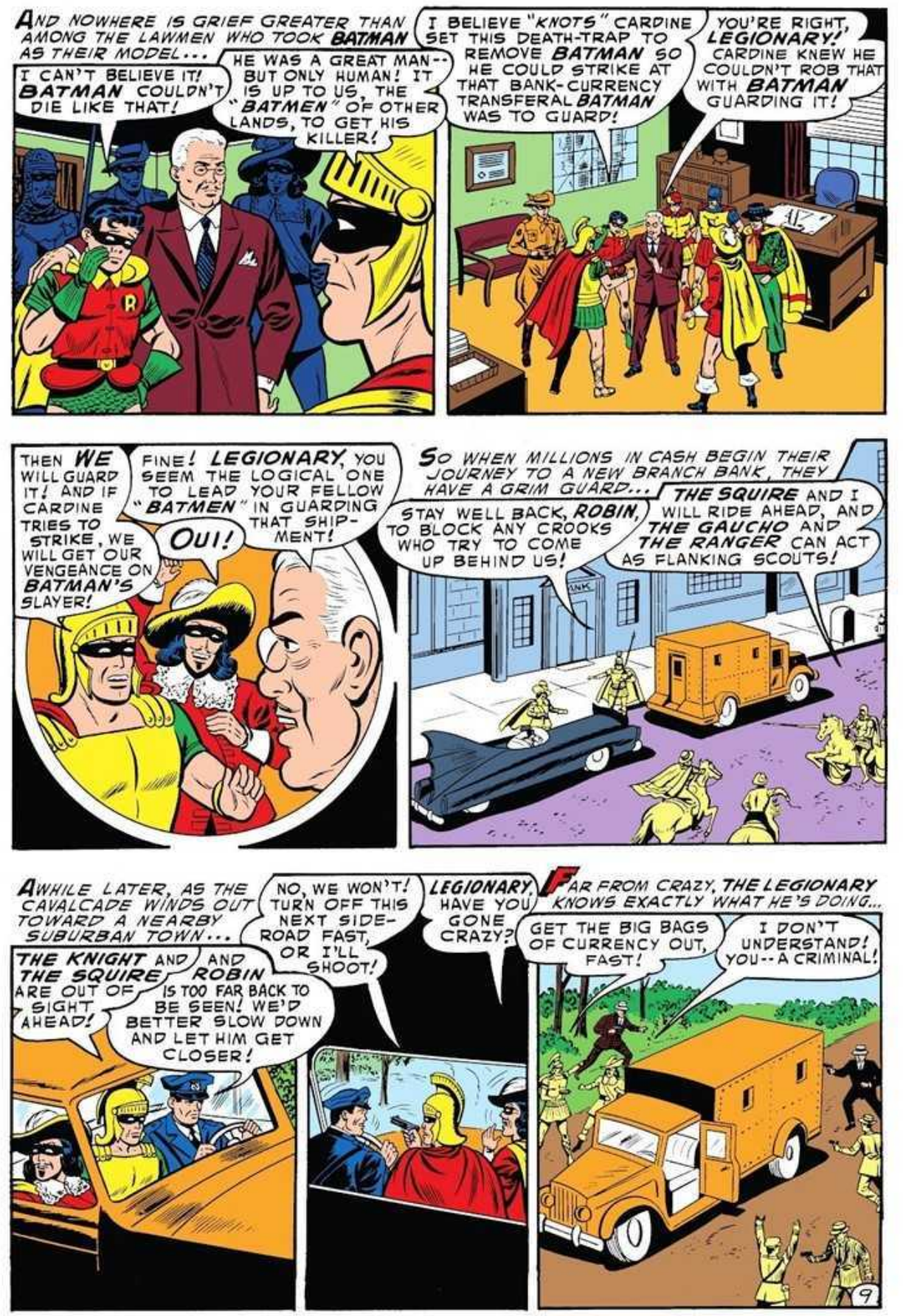
SHORTLY, IN COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...
BATMAN, I CALLED YOU DOWN FROM THE ROOF TO HEAR THIS!
AT THE VERY TIME WHEN THE "BATMEN" OF OTHER LANDS ARE HERE TO LEARN OUR BATMAN'S METHODS, A DEFIANT CHALLENGE HAS BEEN ISSUED!
"KNOTS" CARDINE, MOST WANTED CRIMINAL IN GOTHAM CITY, HAS ISSUED A PUBLIC BOAST THAT HE WILL COMMIT UNPRECEDENTED CRIMES UNDER THE VERY NOSES OF THESE GREAT LAYMEN!
HMM... CARDINE IS A SHREWD CROOK! HE MUST HAVE SOME REASON FOR MAKING THIS PUBLIC BOAST!
JUST THEN...
COMMISSIONER! AN INTERRUPTED PHONE CALL FROM THE GOTHAM BELL COMPANY! SOUNDED LIKE THE WATCHMAN CALLING FOR HELP!
WHAT...? COME ON... WE'LL GET THERE RIGHT AWAY!
OUT INTO THE NIGHT RACE THE INTERNATIONAL CRIME-FIGHTERS!
PARBLEU! A MAGNIFIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK ON AN ACTUAL CASE WITH BATMAN!
BUT INSIDE THE GREAT BELL FACTORY, IT'S THE "BATMEN" WHO GET THE SURPRISE...
COMPLIMENTS OF "KNOTS" CARDINE!
AN AMBUSH! THEY KNEW WE WERE COMING THROUGH HERE!
LOOK OUT! I'LL TRY TO KICK THE GONG OVER!
AND UPON REACHING THEIR DESTINATION...
PERHAPS, SIGNOR BATMAN, SOME OF US SHOULD GUARD THE GATES!
GOOD IDEA... I'LL LEAVE THAT TO YOU, LEGIONARY! THE REST OF US WILL GO THROUGH THE FACTORY, TO THE OFFICE WHERE THE SAFE IS! THAT WAY, WE CAN TAKE THE ROBBERS BY SURPRISE!
4

BATMAN STOPPED THE BIG GONG!
YES-- BUT THE CRIMINALS ARE ESCAPING!
QUICK-- WE CAN CATCH THEM AT THE GATE!
BONG
DING DONG
BUT AT THE GATE, STILL ANOTHER SET-BACK...
A SPEEDING CAR RUSHED PAST ME AND KNOCKED ME DOWN-- STUNNED ME! THEY GOT AWAY!
FAN OUT ON THESE STREETS! WE MUST CUT THEM OFF, BECAUSE NO ONE KNOWS WHERE CARDINE'S HIDEOUT IS!
AND BEFORE THE STARTLED EYES OF PEDESTRIANS, THE STRANGE LAWMEN ROAR INTO ACTION...
THEY DIDN'T GO THIS WAY-- BUT BATMAN WILL CATCH THEM!
THE RANGER AND THE GAUCHO ARE COVERING GOTHAM BOULEVARD!
WE'VE CHECKED ALL THE STREETS EXCEPT AN ALLEY THEY COULDN'T MAKE SPEED IN-- SO THEY MUST BE STRAIGHT AHEAD OF US!
BUT AS THOUGH OVERHEARING BATMAN'S WORDS, THE CROOKS TAKE THAT ONE LOOPHOLE OF ESCAPE...
BATMAN ISN'T COVERING THIS ALLEY, SO WE CAN DOUBLE BACK ALONG IT AND PULL THE NEXT JOB!
HA, HA-- WE'RE SURE MAKING BATMAN LOOK BAD IN FRONT OF THESE VISITING "BATMEN"!
AND THE JUBILANT CROOK IS NOT FAR FROM WRONG...
NO CAR LIKE THAT WENT THROUGH THIS TOLL-GATE!
THEY DIDN'T TAKE OUR STREET, EITHER!
NOR OURS! THEY SLIPPED BACK PAST YOU, BATMAN!
R.F. 4W-603
27
5

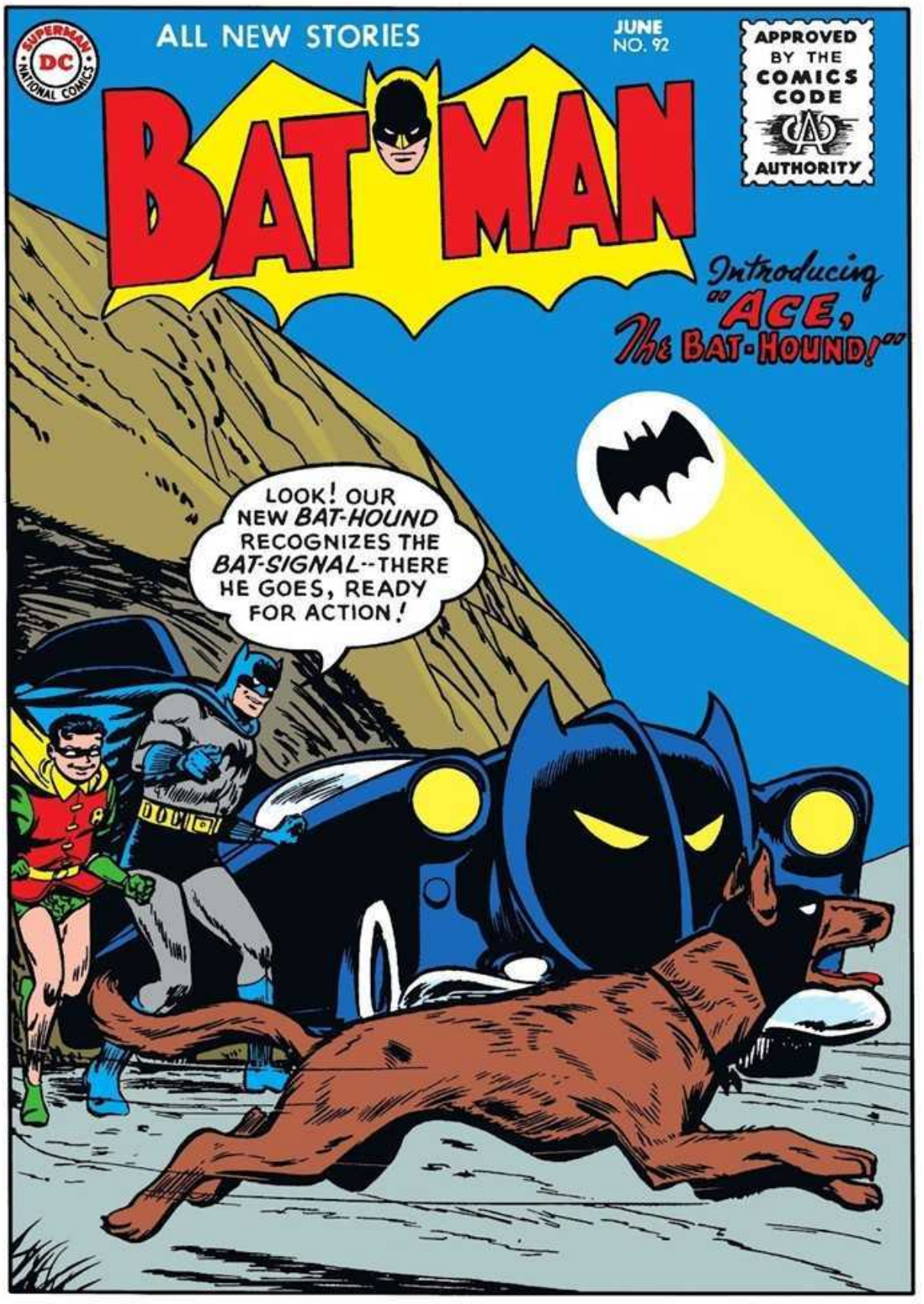

THUS, BACK AT HEADQUARTERS, THE LAWMEN FACE A BAFFLING PROBLEM...
THEN "KNOTS" CARDINE GOT CLEAR AWAY-- AND WE HAVE NO IDEA WHERE HIS HIDEOUT IS!
IT'S AS THOUGH THEY KNEW JUST WHAT WE WERE GOING TO DO!
THESE AMERICAN CROOKS-- THEY SEEM TO BE TOO MUCH EVEN FOR BATMAN!
WE MUST GET CARDINE FAST! TOMORROW, GOTHAM BANK IS TRANSFERRING MILLIONS IN CURRENCY TO ITS NEW BRANCH! EVEN THOUGH YOU ARRANGED TO GUARD IT, BATMAN, CARDINE MAY ATTEMPT TO ROB IT!
I HAVE ONE CLUE! THE CRIMINALS' CAR WAS SCRATCHED ON THE SIDE, AS THOUGH BY BUSHES-- SO THEIR HIDEOUT MUST BE IN A THICKLY-WOODED COUNTRY REGION!
THAT SHOULD HELP, LEGIONARY!
GOLLY... BATMAN ISN'T SHOWING UP VERY WELL BEFORE THESE FOREIGN LAWMEN! IT'S NOT LIKE HIM!
YOU CAN ISSUE A GENERAL ALARM FOR A CAR OF THAT DESCRIPTION, WITH A SCRATCHED SIDE! WE'LL PATROL THE CITY ALSO, IN SEARCH OF IT! IT'S OUR ONLY CLUE!
AND AS THE CITY-WIDE SEARCH BEGINS...
THE ONLY CLUE WE SPOTTED WAS BY THE LEGIONARY! IS IT POSSIBLE THAT THE GREAT BATMAN IS NOT SO CLEVER AS WE THOUGHT?
DON'T JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS! REMEMBER HIS BRILLIANT RECORD-- THOUGH MAYBE THIS CARDINE IS A SMARTER CROOK THAN ANY HE EVER FACED!
AT THAT MOMENT, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY...
FLASH BULLETIN! SIGNAL 22 AT WORLD CIRCUS! SIGNAL 22!
SIGNAL 22 ...THAT'S ROBBERY! WE'RE NOT FAR FROM THE CIRCUS! HANG ON!
6


WHILE AT THE SCENE OF THE CRIME...
THOSE CROOKS... THEY HOOKED ONTO THE CASHIER'S MONEY WAGON AND ARE TOWING IT AWAY!
AND ONCE AGAIN, AS THOUGH ENDOWED WITH UNCANNY FORESIGHT, ESCAPING CRIMINALS AVOID THE BATMOBILE AS IT RACES TO THE RESCUE...
BATMAN'S COMING AROUND THE NEXT BLOCK! DODGE IN HERE, QUICK!
SOON...
YES, THE CAR THAT TOWED THE CASHIER'S WAGON AWAY HAD SCRATCHED SIDES!
THEN IT WAS ANOTHER OF CARDINE'S JOBS! BUT HE'S A BIG OPERATOR... IT'S NOT LIKE HIM TO BOTHER WITH THE FEW THOUSANDS IN AN OFFICE SAFE OR A CIRCUS WAGON!
AND AS THE LAWMEN TAKE UP THE TRAIL...
SURE I SAW A CIRCUS WAGON... IT WENT UP INTO THOSE HILLS!
IT SHOULDN'T BE HARD TO FIND THOSE DOUBLE TRACKS ON THE DIRT ROADS! SPREAD OUT, EVERYBODY!
AGAIN, HOWEVER, IT IS NOT BATMAN BUT THE LEGIONARY WHO SPOTS A CLUE TO THE TRAIL...
SEE? THOSE BUSHES ARE THE SAME HEIGHT AS THE SCRATCHES I SAW ON THE CROOKS' CAR! IT MUST BE THE ROAD THEY USUALLY TAKE!
LOOKS LIKE IT! MUSKETEER, YOU GO BACK AND TELL THE OTHERS TO FOLLOW US UP THIS WAY!
BUT AS THE SEARCH BEGINS...
HMM... NO SUCH TRACKS ON THIS ROAD! ER--IT SEEMS TO ME THAT BATMAN IS RATHER BOBBLING THIS CASE, WHAT?
I'M A BIT DASHED BY HIS FAILURE TO STOP THIS CARDINE, YES--BUT HE'LL COME UP WITH SOMETHING CLEVER SOON, OLD CHAP... I'M SURE OF IT!
7

WITHIN A FEW MINUTES...
LOOK! THE DOUBLE TRACKS OF THE CROOKS' CAR AND THE MONEY-WAGON GO UP TO THAT OLD HOUSE!
IT MUST BE THEIR SECRET HIDEOUT! COME ON!
BUT SHOULDN'T ONE OF US STAY HERE, IN CASE ANY OF THEM TRY TO ESCAPE THIS WAY?
THE LEGIONARY IS RIGHT! YOU STAY HERE WITH HIM, ROBIN!
BUT IN THE NEXT INSTANT...
BAROOM!
WHY-- THE WHOLE HOUSE EXPLODED TO BITS!
BATMAN! BATMAN!
SILENTLY, BATMAN APPROACHES A HOUSE OF SINISTER PERIL...
THAT OLD PORCH LAMP... THE LENS IN ITS SIDE SHOWS IT'S A DISGUISED ELECTRIC-EYE BEAM! CARDINE CERTAINLY USES MODERN DEVICES! I'LL HAVE TO BE CAREFUL!
ONLY PULVERIZED, SMOKING DEBRIS GREET THE HORRIFIED ROBIN, WHEN HE RACES UP THE HILL...
WHY, THE PLACE MUST HAVE BEEN A GIANT BOOBY-TRAP, SET OFF BY BATMAN WHEN HE ENTERED!
A DEATH-TRAP THAT "KNOTS" CARDINE SET FOR HIM! HE DEFIED BATMAN PUBLICLY BECAUSE HE WANTED HIM TO FIND THIS FAKE HIDEOUT-- AND BE DESTROYED!
THUS, A HEADLINE NO ONE EVER DREAMED OF READING SOON FLARES ACROSS GOTHAM CITY...
IT'S INCREDIBLE, BUT TRUE! BATMAN FINALLY HAS MET HIS DOOM!
BATMAN KILLED
8


AND NOWHERE IS GRIEF GREATER THAN AMONG THE LAWMEN WHO TOOK BATMAN AS THEIR MODEL...
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! BATMAN COULDN'T DIE LIKE THAT!
HE WAS A GREAT MAN--BUT ONLY HUMAN! IT IS UP TO US, THE "BATMEN" OF OTHER LANDS, TO GET HIS KILLER!
I BELIEVE "KNOTS" CARDINE SET THIS DEATH-TRAP TO REMOVE BATMAN SO HE COULD STRIKE AT THAT BANK-CURRENCY TRANSFERAL BATMAN WAS TO GUARD!
YOU'RE RIGHT, LEGIONARY! CARDINE KNEW HE COULDN'T ROB THAT WITH BATMAN GUARDING IT!
THEN WE WILL GUARD IT! AND IF CARDINE TRIES TO STRIKE, WE WILL GET OUR VENGEANCE ON BATMAN'S SLAYER!
FINE! LEGIONARY, YOU SEEM THE LOGICAL ONE TO LEAD YOUR FELLOW "BATMEN" IN GUARDING THAT SHIPMENT!
OUI!
SO WHEN MILLIONS IN CASH BEGIN THEIR JOURNEY TO A NEW BRANCH BANK, THEY HAVE A GRIM GUARD...
STAY WELL BACK, ROBIN, TO BLOCK ANY CROOKS WHO TRY TO COME UP BEHIND US!
THE SQUIRE AND I WILL RIDE AHEAD, AND THE GAUCHO AND THE RANGER CAN ACT AS FLANKING SCOUTS!
AWHILE LATER, AS THE CAVALCADE WINDS OUT TOWARD A NEARBY SUBURBAN TOWN...
THE KNIGHT AND THE SQUIRE ARE OUT OF SIGHT AHEAD!
AND ROBIN IS TOO FAR BACK TO BE SEEN! WE'D BETTER SLOW DOWN AND LET HIM GET CLOSER!
NO, WE WON'T! TURN OFF THIS NEXT SIDE-ROAD FAST, OR I'LL SHOOT!
LEGIONARY, HAVE YOU GONE CRAZY?
FAR FROM CRAZY, THE LEGIONARY KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT HE'S DOING...
GET THE BIG BAGS OF CURRENCY OUT, FAST!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND! YOU--A CRIMINAL!
9

BUT SUDDENLY...
BATMAN! I DON'T GET IT! HE SAID YOU'RE DEAD-- OOF!
SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU--BUT I'M VERY MUCH ALIVE!
$ 50,000
I GOT YOUR BELT-RADIO MESSAGE JUST NOW, BATMAN-- THE GLADDEST ONE I EVER RECEIVED!
I COULDN'T CALL YOU WHEN YOU WERE WITH THE LEGIONARY! AH-- THE REST OF THE BATMEN" ARE HURRYING BACK TO JOIN IN THE FUN!
AND AS WHIRLWIND CRIME-FIGHTERS, FROM ALL LANDS, POUNCE ON THE STUNNED CROOKS...
WHY, THE LEGIONARY IS "KNOTS" CARDINE HIMSELF!
HE MUST HAVE KIDNAPPED THE REAL LEGIONARY WHEN HE ARRIVED, AND TOOK HIS PLACE! SEE HOW HE KEPT HIS MEN WARNED?... A WALKIE-TALKIE MIKE INSIDE HIS HELMET, WITH HIS SPEAR FOR AN AERIAL!
PRESENTLY, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, AFTER THE REAL LEGIONARY HAS BEEN RELEASED...
CARDINE IMPERSONATED A VISITING "BATMAN" IN ORDER TO LEAD ME INTO A DEATH-TRAP, SO HE COULD REPLACE ME AS GUARD OF THE BANK SHIPMENT! BUT HIS FIRST "CLUE" MADE ME SUSPECT HIM... HE WAS ON THE DARK SIDE OF THAT GETAWAY CAR AND COULDN'T HAVE SEEN THOSE SCRATCHES ON IT!
"BECAUSE I WAS SUSPICIOUS, INSTEAD OF GOING INTO THAT FAKE HIDEOUT, I TOOK A PRECAUTION..."
I'LL SEE WHAT MY BATARANG MAKES THAT ELECTRIC EYE DO... AH-- JUST AS I FIGURED! THE PLACE WAS A GIANT BOOBY-TRAP! AND THE LEGIONARY'S "CLUES" LED ME RIGHT HERE TO IT!
I FIGURED THEN THAT THE LEGIONARY WANTED ME DEAD...OUT OF THE WAY SO HE COULD GET THAT BANK SHIPMENT! SO I HID IN THE BUSHES AND LET HIM THINK ME DEAD, BECAUSE I WANTED TO GET HIS WHOLE MOB, TOO, WHEN HE TRIED FOR THAT SHIPMENT!
AND YOU WENT ALONG IN ONE OF THE CURRENCY SACKS!
PARBLEU-- TO THINK THAT FOR A MOMENT I DOUBTED YOUR ABILITY, BATMAN! I APOLOGIZE!
SI-- THERE IS, AFTER ALL, ONLY ONE REAL BATMAN IN THE WORLD!
THE END
10


ALL NEW STORIES
JUNE
NO. 92
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
BAT MAN
Introducing "ACE, The BAT-HOUND!"
LOOK! OUR NEW BAT-HOUND RECOGNIZES THE BAT-SIGNAL--THERE HE GOES, READY FOR ACTION!

BATMAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
OUR NEW BAT-HOUND KNOWS THE BAT-SIGNAL NOW! LOOK-- HE'S READY FOR ACTION!
THAT DYNAMIC DUO, BATMAN AND ROBIN, SUDDENLY BECOME A PART OF A TRIO WHEN A NEW MEMBER JOINS THEIR TERRIFIC TEAM! AND THEIR NEW COMRADE ISN'T HUMAN BUT CANINE! YES, THE DYNAMIC DUO ACQUIRES A DOG -- AND WHAT A DOG! FOR THE KEY TO THE WHOLE DANGER-PACKED MYSTERY IS THEIR NEW ALLY -- THAT MASKED, FOUR-FOOTED WONDER, KNOWN AS...
ACE, THE BAT-HOUND!"
BOB KANE
ONE NIGHT, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN PATROL GOTHAM CITY...
LOOK, BATMAN... THAT DOG TRYING TO SWIM THE RIVER -- HE'S SINKING!
COME ON, ROBIN -- WE CAN'T LET HIM DROWN!
HE'S BEEN STUNNED, KNOCKED GROGGY... THAT'S WHY HE COULDN'T SWIM THE STREAM!
WE'LL TAKE HIM HOME WITH US AND FIND HIS OWNER!
CAREFUL, BATMAN... YOU MAY NOT KNOW IT NOW, BUT YOU'RE ASKING FOR TROUBLE!

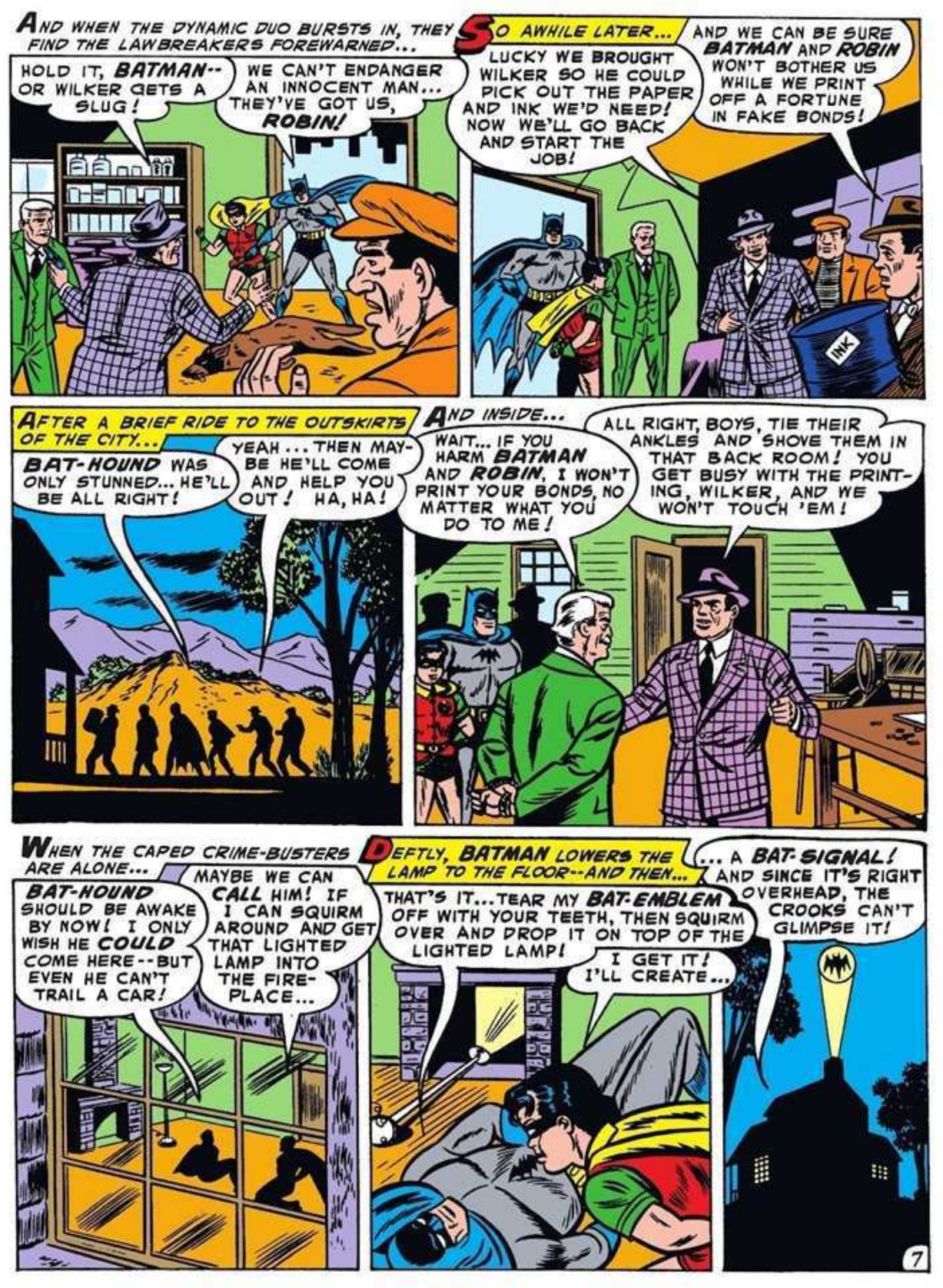
SOON, IN THE SECRET BAT-CAVE, A SWITCH TO THEIR EVERYDAY IDENTITIES AS WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...
HE'S FEELING PERKIER NOW... WE CAN PUT A LOST-AND-FOUND NOTICE IN ALL THE MORNING PAPERS!
AND SINCE I CAN'T GIVE THE BAT-CAVE AS MY ADDRESS, I'LL ADVERTISE AS BRUCE WAYNE!
SO THE FOLLOWING DAY...
THIS AD IN ALL THE PAPERS OUGHT TO GET RESULTS!
IN A WAY, I'LL BE SORRY WHEN HIS OWNER TURNS UP! I'VE GROWN FOND OF THAT POOCH--AND HE SEEMS TO LIKE US, TOO!
FOUND!! DOG--APPLY TO BRUCE WAYNE
BUT A GRATEFUL HOUND CAN PROVE TOO FRIENDLY, AS THE DUO LEARNS SHORTLY AFTERWARD, WHILE ANSWERING A CALL FROM POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
THE DOG--HE'S COMING AFTER US!
NO TIME TO TAKE HIM BACK NOW! LET HIM IN THE CAR, AND YOU CAN HOLD HIM!
TROUBLE IS, ANYONE SEEING THIS DOG WILL RECOGNIZE HIM, FROM THAT FOREHEAD MARK, AS THE DOG BRUCE WAYNE ADVERTISED! IT'D IMPERIL OUR SECRET IDENTITIES!
I'LL FIX THAT WHILE YOU'RE CHECKING WITH HEADQUARTERS!
SO AWHILE LATER...
I CUT HIM THIS MASK FROM OUR BLACK CLOTH TOOL BAG... AND MADE A BAT-SYMBOL FOR HIS COLLAR! NOW NO ONE CAN RECOGNIZE HIM! BUT WHAT'S UP?
BERT BOWERS, AN ESCAPED CONVICT, WAS SPOTTED GOING INTO THE STEVENS WAREHOUSE! WE'VE GOT TO HURRY!
WITHIN MINUTES, THE MIGHTY BAT-MOBILE STREAKS TO ITS DESTINATION...
I SPOTTED BOWERS SNEAKING IN THERE, AND CALLED IN AN ALARM!
COME ON, ROBIN!
YOU'D BETTER COME, TOO, PUP!
2

AND INSIDE THE SHADOWY STORAGE HOUSE, WHERE DEADLY DANGER LURKS...
THIS IS WHERE THEY STORE EQUIPMENT FOR THE ANNUAL CITY CHARITY CIRCUS! BOWERS WON'T BE EASY TO FIND AMONG THEM!
HERE, HANG ONTO THE DOG, WILL YOU? I DON'T WANT HIM TO GET HURT!
MUST LAY LOW TILL THEY'RE UNDER SOME BIG, HEAVY PROP!
A MOMENT LATER...
SEE ANYTHING, BATMAN?
NOT YET! HEY-- WHERE'S THE DOG GOING? HE SEEMS TO... ROBIN! THAT CLOWN FIGURE-- LOOK OUT!
AS BATMAN LEAPS TO ROBIN'S RESCUE, A SECOND MASKED FIGURE GOES INTO FLASHING ACTION!
THANKS, BATMAN! THOSE CLOWN-FIGURES ARE BUILT HEAVY... IT WOULD'VE CRUSHED ME! BUT BOWERS IS GETTING AWAY!
CRASH
HE WON'T GO FAR -- WE'VE GOT A HELPER!
LEGGO, YOU--YOU BAT-HOUND!
LOOK-- HE'S GOT BOWERS BY THE COAT-SLEEVE, HOLDING HIM IN TRUE POLICE DOG STYLE!
AND THAT GIVES US TIME TO GRAB HIM! GOOD WORK, BOY!
"BAT-HOUND" IS A GOOD NAME FOR HIM, BATMAN! HE SURE HELPED OUT THIS TIME!
YES-- HE'D MAKE A SWELL ADDITION TO THE TEAM, IF WE COULD KEEP HIM! COME ON, BOY-- YOU'VE EARNED A BONE!
BUT UPON RETURNING HOME AND CHANGING IDENTITIES...
YES, MR. WAYNE, THE DOG YOU ADVERTISED LOOKS LIKE JOHN WILKER'S DOG, ACE! WILKER LIVES IN A COTTAGE OUT IN THIS SUBURB!
THANK YOU FOR CALLING.. WE'LL GO RIGHT OUT AND CHECK WITH MR. WILKER!
3

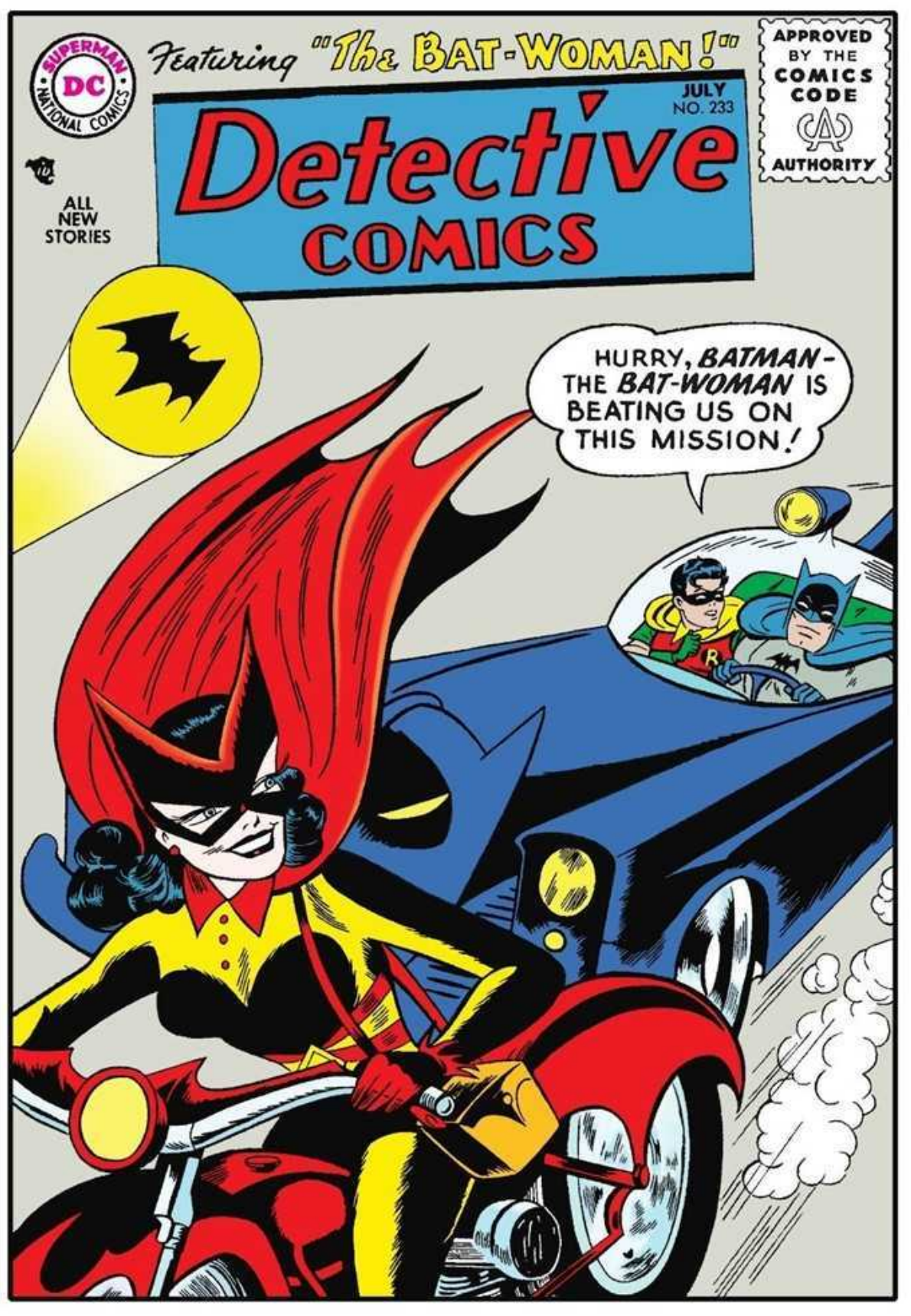
PRESENTLY, IN AN ISOLATED SUBURB...
YES, THAT'S JOHN WILKER'S DOG--AND THERE'S HIS COTTAGE! HE BOUGHT THIS TRAINED DOG BECAUSE HE LIVES ALONE AND IS AWAY FROM HOME ALL DAY!
THANKS--WE'LL RETURN HIM TO MR. WILKER AT ONCE!
BUT IN THE WILKER COTTAGE, THEY COME UPON A SINISTER MYSTERY...
IT LOOKS LIKE WILKER WAS OVERPOWERED AND TAKEN AWAY! ACE, DEFENDING HIM, MUST HAVE BEEN STUNNED--THEN, LATER, TRIED TO FOLLOW HIS MASTER!
IT SEEMS JOHN WILKER WAS EMPLOYED BY THE GOTHAM PRINTING AND ENGRAVING COMPANY! WE'LL CHECK THERE!
AT THE PRINTING FIRM, THE MYSTERY DEEPENS...
NO, MR. WAYNE, JOHN WILKER HASN'T BEEN TO WORK FOR TWO DAYS! AND WE NEED HIM... HE'S OUR MOST SKILLED ENGRAVER!
WELL, I'LL KEEP THIS DOG SAFE FOR HIM!
BACK IN THE BAT-CAVE, HOWEVER, ALFRED THE BUTLER--THE ONLY PERSON WHO KNOWS THE DUO'S SECRET IDENTITY--POINTS OUT A PERIL...
WHAT IF SOMEONE UNMASKS THIS HOUND AND TRACES HIM BACK TO BRUCE WAYNE?
I'LL TAKE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST THAT, ALFRED! WE'VE GOT TO FIND JOHN WILKER, AND HIS DOG CAN HELP US!
BUT LATER, A SUMMONING SYMBOL INTERRUPTS BATMAN'S PLANS...
THE BAT-SIGNAL IS FLASHING... BUT WHERE'S BAT-HOUND?
WE CAN'T WAIT FOR HIM... COME ON!
LOOK--THERE HE GOES! AS SOON AS HE SAW US RACE TO THE BATMOBILE, HE REALIZED WE MUST BE GOING TO HEADQUARTERS--JUST LIKE LAST TIME!
YES, TRAINED WATCHDOGS LEARN FAST!
4

MINUTES LATER, IN THE OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER GORDON...
A BAT-HOUND? HE MAY BE HELPFUL ON THIS JOB!
A BURGLARY AT A PAPER COMPANY? HOW CAN HE HELP US THERE, COMMISSIONER?
PRECINCT STATION TEN REPORTS A BURGLARY AT GENERA PAPER COMPANY. BURGLARS ESCA
THAT'S NOT WHY I CALLED YOU! A WOMAN'S 4-YEAR-OLD BOY HAS WANDERED AWAY IN THE LYNWOOD SECTION, AND WE CAN'T SEEM TO LOCATE HIM ANYWHERE!
COME ON, ROBIN!
BUT OUTSIDE, BATMAN, MAKES A QUICK CHANGE OF PLAN...
WITH BAT-HOUND, YOU CAN LOOK FOR THAT YOUNGSTER, WHILE I COVER THIS PAPER BURGLARY!
BUT STOLEN PAPER ISN'T IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO... WELL-- ALL RIGHT, IF YOU SAY SO, BATMAN!
AND IN A NEARBY RESIDENTIAL SECTION, BAT-HOUND TAKES THE TRAIL IN A WAY NO HUMAN SLEUTH COULD...
THIS IS LITTLE ORVIE'S COAT, BAT-HOUND... NOW GO FIND HIM!
THE POLICE CAN'T LOCATE HIM ANYWHERE ... EVERY INCH OF THE PARK'S BEEN SEARCHED!
BUT A DOG CAN COME UP WITH UNUSUAL PLACES TO SEARCH...
SO HE CRAWLED INTO THAT DRAINPIPE, EH? I CAN'T SQUEEZE IN, BUT YOU CAN, BAT-HOUND! BRING HIM OUT!
GOOD WORK BAT-HOUND... WE'LL TURN HIM OVER TO HIS MOTHER AND JOIN BATMAN AT THAT PAPER FACTORY! WONDER WHY HE WAS SO INTERESTED IN STOLEN PAPER ANYHOW?
NICE DOGGIE!
5

A PUZZLING PROBLEM, INDEED, AS THE BOY WONDER JOINS BATMAN AT THE PAPER MILL...
YOU SAY ONLY ONE BALE OF THAT PARTICULAR PAPER WAS STOLEN?
YES, THAT'S ALL! I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT -- THE PAPER'S NOT THAT VALUABLE -- AND... WH-WHAT'S THAT?
GR-R
WHY, BAT-HOUND.. WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?
I WAS RIGHT ABOUT THIS PAPER ROBBERY! BAT-HOUND PROVES IT!
GRRRR GRRRR
BAT-HOUND HAS SCENTED THE BURGLARS' TRAIL HERE! BUT WHY SHOULD THAT ENRAGE HIM SO, UNLESS...
UNLESS THEY'RE THE SAME MEN WHO STUNNED HIM AND ABDUCTED HIS MASTER, JOHN WILKER! AND IF MY THEORY IS RIGHT, THEY'LL STRIKE NEXT AT THE BIG EASTERN PRINTING-INK COMPANY!
MOMENTS LATER...
BUT WHY SHOULD CROOKS WANT PAPER AND INK? I DON'T GET IT!
IT WAS SPECIAL PAPER THEY STOLE, ROBIN -- THE KIND VALUABLE BONDS ARE PRINTED ON! WITH WILKER TO ENGRAVE AND PRINT FOR THEM, AND THE RIGHT PAPER AND INK, THEY CAN COUNTERFEIT BONDS!
AND WHEN THEY REACH THE INK FACTORY...
BAT-HOUND! COME BACK! HE'S GONE WILD, FOR SOME REASON...
EASTERN PRINTIN
ARF! ARF! ARF!
BAT-HOUND HAS A VERY GOOD REASON...
THAT MASKED DOG... IT'S MY OWN DOG -- ACE!
THAT MUTT AGAIN? THIS CAN OF INK WILL KNOCK HIM COLD!
6


AND WHEN THE DYNAMIC DUO BURSTS IN, THEY FIND THE LAWBREAKERS FOREWARNED...
HOLD IT, BATMAN-- OR WILKER GETS A SLUG!
WE CAN'T ENDANGER AN INNOCENT MAN... THEY'VE GOT US, ROBIN!
SO AWHILE LATER...
LUCKY WE BROUGHT WILKER SO HE COULD PICK OUT THE PAPER AND INK WE'D NEED! NOW WE'LL GO BACK AND START THE JOB!
AND WE CAN BE SURE BATMAN AND ROBIN WON'T BOTHER US WHILE WE PRINT OFF A FORTUNE IN FAKE BONDS!
INK
AFTER A BRIEF RIDE TO THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY...
BAT-HOUND WAS ONLY STUNNED... HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT!
YEAH... THEN MAYBE HE'LL COME AND HELP YOU OUT! HA, HA!
AND INSIDE...
WAIT... IF YOU HARM BATMAN AND ROBIN, I WON'T PRINT YOUR BONDS, NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO TO ME!
ALL RIGHT, BOYS, TIE THEIR ANKLES AND SHOVE THEM IN THAT BACK ROOM! YOU GET BUSY WITH THE PRINTING, WILKER, AND WE WON'T TOUCH 'EM!
WHEN THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTERS ARE ALONE...
BAT-HOUND SHOULD BE AWAKE BY NOW! I ONLY WISH HE COULD COME HERE--BUT EVEN HE CAN'T TRAIL A CAR!
MAYBE WE CAN CALL HIM! IF I CAN SQUIRM AROUND AND GET THAT LIGHTED LAMP INTO THE FIRE-PLACE...
DEFTLY, BATMAN LOWERS THE LAMP TO THE FLOOR--AND THEN...
THAT'S IT... TEAR MY BAT-EMBLEM OFF WITH YOUR TEETH, THEN SQUIRM OVER AND DROP IT ON TOP OF THE LIGHTED LAMP!
I GET IT! I'LL CREATE...
... A BAT-SIGNAL! AND SINCE IT'S RIGHT OVERHEAD, THE CROOKS CAN'T GLIMPSE IT!
7

FAR AWAY, A FOUR-FOOTED ALLY SEES THE SIGNAL THAT HE HAS LEARNED TO ANSWER...
THAT'S IT... NOW CHEW THE ROPE APART! ONCE I'M FREE, I CAN UNTIE BATMAN!
SOON, OUTSIDE THE PRISONERS' ROOM, A GRIMLY SILENT SHAPE APPEARS...
COME ON, BAT-HOUND... YOU CAN FORCE OPEN THAT CASEMENT WINDOW IF YOU PRESS HARD!
GOOD BOY! YOU DID IT!
CLICK
SECONDS LATER, A TERRIFYING TRIO BURSTS FORTH...
BATMAN AND ROBIN-- FREE! AND THAT DOG...
THE BRIEF BATTLE ENDS ABRUPTLY--AND WHEN POLICE AND REPORTERS ARRIVE...
YES, THEY CAPTURED JOHN WILKER TO FORCE HIM TO HELP THEM PRINT FAKE BONDS!
BUT THAT DOG OF WILKER'S IS THE ONE BRUCE WAYNE ADVERTISED! AND HE'S YOUR BAT-HOUND! DOES THAT MEAN...?
...THAT I'M BRUCE WAYNE? NO, I GOT THE DOG FROM BRUCE TO HELP ME FIND WILKER-- AS THIS SNAPSHOT ROBIN TOOK WILL SHOW YOU!
AND THEY CAN'T KNOW THAT ALFRED WORE THE BATMAN COSTUME WHEN I SNAPPED THAT PICTURE ALIBI!
HE'S A GREAT DOG, MR. WILKER! IT WAS HE WHO REALLY SAVED US!
AND IF YOU EVER WANT TO BE A BAT-HOUND AGAIN, ACE-- THE POSITION IS OPEN!
THE END.
8


SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
Featuring "The BAT-WOMAN!"
JULY
NO. 233
Detective
COMICS
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
ALL NEW STORIES
HURRY, BATMAN - THE BAT-WOMAN IS BEATING US ON THIS MISSION!

BATMAN
With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER
DON'T WORRY, BATMAN AND ROBIN--I'LL SAVE YOU!
IT'S THE BATWOMAN!
BOB KANE
"THERE'S ONLY ONE BATMAN!" THAT'S BEEN SAID MANY TIMES, AND HAS BEEN TRUE... FOR NO OTHER MAN HAS EVER RIVALED BATMAN AS A CHAMPION OF THE LAW, NOR MATCHED HIS SUPERB ACROBATIC SKILL, HIS SCIENTIFIC KEENNESS, HIS MASTERY OF DISGUISE AND DETECTIVE SKILL! BUT NOW, IN ONE SUSPENSEFUL SURPRISE AFTER ANOTHER, BATMAN FINDS HE HAS A GREAT RIVAL IN THE MYSTERIOUS AND GLAMOROUS GIRL...
THE BATWOMAN

ACROSS GOTHAM CITY, ONE NIGHT, STABS AN EERIE SYMBOL THAT CATAPULTS A MAN AND A BOY INTO DYNAMIC ACTION...
THE BAT-SIGNAL -- AND IT'S SWEEPING SOUTH-WESTWARD!
QUICK, WE'LL CHANGE AND GET GOING!
IN THE BAT-CAVE UNDER HIS MANSION, WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON, SWIFTLY BECOME -- BATMAN AND ROBIN!
THE SIGNAL WAS SWEEPING TOWARD THE NEW AIR TERMINAL! SOMEONE THERE MUST HAVE PHONED IN AN ALARM!
WE CAN BE THERE IN MINUTES!
BUT ANOTHER CHAMPION OF THE LAW IS ALREADY THERE!
A FLASHING FEMININE FIGURE ANSWERS THAT QUICKLY...
HERE'S A TRIP AROUND THE WORLD FOR YOU -- THE FAST WAY!
SHE MADE THE GLOBE SPIN AND KNOCKED HIM OUT! WHY, I'LL --
BUT AS THE ENRAGED THIEF CHARGES, THE AMAZING BATWOMAN EXTRACTS A LARGE POWDER-PUFF FROM HER BAG AND...
SHE SHOOK A WHOLE CLOUD OF POWDER IN MY FACE -- ACHOO -- CAN'T STOP SNEEZING!
WE'VE GOT THE FARE RECEIPTS -- BUT ISN'T THAT BATMAN?
NO -- WHY, IT'S A BAT-WOMAN! HA, HA! WHAT CAN SHE DO?
THEN, SWIFTLY TAKING BLENDER BRACELETS FROM HER WRISTS...
MY CHARM BRACELETS ARE REALLY DISGUISED STEEL HANDCUFFS THAT'LL HOLD YOU TWO LIKE A CHARM UNTIL POLICE COME!
BATMAN, LOOK! THAT GIRL'S CAPTURED TWO THIEVES! WHY -- SHE'S A BATWOMAN!
2

AS THE DYNAMIC DUO'S GLAMOROUS NEW RIVAL STARTS TO RACE AWAY...
WAIT! WHOEVER YOU ARE--YOU CAN'T CRUSADE AGAINST CRIME! THE LAW OF GOTHAM CITY SAYS THAT NOBODY CAN WEAR A BATMAN COSTUME!
YOU'RE WRONG, BATMAN. THE LAW SAYS "NO MAN CAN WEAR IT." I'M A WOMAN!
WE'LL TRAIL HER HOME AND FIND OUT WHO SHE IS--THAT WAY WE CAN STOP HER INTERFERENCE!
BATMAN, I GIVE YOU FAIR WARNING--IF YOU EVER SHOULD PENETRATE MY SECRET, YOU'LL BE AUTOMATICALLY REVEALING YOUR OWN IDENTITY!
AND MOMENTS LATER, AS BATWOMAN RIDES HER BAT-CYCLE INTO A NARROW ALLEY...
WE CAN'T FOLLOW HER THROUGH THAT NARROW ALLEY! BATMAN, DO YOU SUPPOSE HER WARNING WAS A BLUFF?
BLUFF OR NOT, WE'VE GOT TO TRACK DOWN HER IDENTITY AND STOP HER DANGEROUS CAREER, EVEN THOUGH IT MAY JEOPARDIZE MY OWN!
BUT THE NEXT NIGHT, WHEN THE DYNAMIC DUO PATROLS GOTHAM CITY IN A SEARCH FOR THE MYSTERIOUS BATWOMAN...
I THOUGHT I GLIMPSED BATWOMAN PATROLLING TOO, BUT I'M NOT SURE--
BUT I DO SEE A KNOWN JEWEL-THIEF DOWN THERE AT THE BIG PREMIERE--AND HERE COMES A STAR WITH FAMOUS DIAMONDS! QUICK! IF HE TRIES TO GRAB ---
WORLD PREMIERE
I THOUGHT YOU'D TRY FOR THOSE DIAMONDS!
BATMAN AND ROBIN! BUT YOU WON'T STOP ME!
LOOK OUT, HE'S GOING TO SHOOT--
SUDDENLY, DOWN FROM ABOVE FLASHES A SWIFT FIGURE...
MY COMPACT-MIRROR SHOULD HELP YOU SEE THE LIGHT!
BATWOMAN! SHE'S DAZZLED HIM--GRAB HIM FAST!
THERE GOES THE BATWOMAN. SHE STOPPED THAT CROOK ALL BY HERSELF!
SHE ALSO SAVED BATMAN'S LIFE!
3

LATER, AS THE UPSET DUO TAKES THE TRAIL AGAIN...
A GIRL SAVING YOU? IT'S RIDICULOUS!
SHE DID, THOUGH--BUT WE'VE GOT TO SEE SHE TAKES NO MORE SUCH RISKS! HER BAT-CYCLE TURNED INTO THIS NEXT BACK STREET--
SHE MUST BE IN HERE SOMEWHERE!
BATMAN BROKE UP OUR JEWEL JOB WITH THAT DAME'S HELP--BUT HE AND ROBIN ARE IN THIS BLIND ALLEY! WE'LL PAY THEM BACK!
MY PERFUME FLASK SHOULD HELP--
AGAIN BATWOMAN USES A FLASHING FEMININE TRICK!
--IT'S TEAR GAS Nº 5!
THE REST OF THE JEWEL MOB! THEY WERE GOING TO TRAP US IN THIS BLIND ALLEY WITH THEIR CAR!
LATER, AFTER DELIVERING THE TEARFUL MOBSTERS TO JUSTICE...
EXTRA! BATWOMAN SAVES BATMAN AGAIN!
AND SHE SLIPPED AWAY AGAIN! BATMAN, SHE'S MAKING YOU LOOK BAD!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT BUT I DO WORRY ABOUT THE RISKS SHE'S TAKING!
BATWOMAN SAVES BATMAN
SHE DOESN'T REALIZE THAT SHE'S BEEN SUCCESSFUL THUS FAR BECAUSE OF GOOD LUCK! AND SHE'S SO RECKLESS THAT SOME CRIMINAL IS BOUND TO FIND OUT HER IDENTITY. THEN, WHEN THAT HAPPENS, SHE'LL BE IN BAD DANGER!
YET SHE SAID THAT IF WE EXPOSED HER, IT WOULD EXPOSE YOU, TOO!
I'VE GOT TO RISK THAT, AND REVEAL HER IDENTITY--TO PROVE TO HER SHE CAN'T KEEP THIS UP! IF WE ONLY KNEW WHERE HER SECRET BASE IS --
4

WHERE IS BATWOMAN'S HIDEOUT, INDEED? AT THAT MOMENT...
THIS FORGOTTEN OLD MINE-TUNNEL IN THE SUBURBS CAME IN HANDY--
--FOR WHEN I BUILT MY HOUSE OVER THE TUNNEL, IT GAVE ME A HIDDEN BAT-CAVE UNDERNEATH! AND MY OWN PORTRAIT GUARDS MY BAT-CAVE FOR ME!
A CHANGE OF COSTUME, AND...
KATHY KANE, HEIRESS -- NO ONE WILL EVER DREAM I'M BATWOMAN -- OR HOW I CAME TO BE BATWOMAN!
"BECAUSE NO ONE DREAMS I WAS ONCE A CIRCUS DAREDEVIL PERFORMER!"
SHE'S A FINE TRAPEZE PERFORMER -- AND OUR BEST MOTOR-CYCLE STUNT RIDER TOO!
BUT I WISH I COULD BE LIKE BATMAN, THE GREATEST ACROBAT OF ALL! HE USES HIS SKILL NOT FOR SHOWS, BUT AGAINST CRIME!
"BUT ONE DAY AN INHERITANCE GAVE ME A CHANCE TO REALIZE MY AMBITION!"
I INHERIT MY UNCLE'S ENTIRE FORTUNE! NOW I CAN USE MY SKILLS AS BATMAN DOES! I, TOO, WILL FIGHT CRIME -- I'LL BE A BATWOMAN!
"AND IN THIS BAT-CAVE I FITTED UP UNDER MY NEW MANSION, I TRAINED LONG FOR MY CAREER!"
THIS COSTUME WILL MASK MY IDENTITY! MY BAT-CYCLE IS READY, AND THIS SHOULDER-BAG UTILITY-CASE WILL BE A GREAT HELP. NOW, WITH MY CRIME-LABORATORY, MY FILES, EVERYTHING -- I'M READY TO ACT!
5

AND I'VE BEGUN BY SAYING BATMAN! BUT NOW I MUST PREPARE FOR THE SWANK PARTY I'M GIVING. AS A SOCIALITE, NOBODY WILL SUSPECT ME OF BEING BATWOMAN!
AND AT THE SAME MOMENT, BRUCE WAYNE...
YES, I'M INVITED TO KATHY KANE'S PARTY AND I HAVE TO SHOW UP AT SOME OF THESE SOCIETY AFFAIRS TO KEEP UP PRETENSES! BUT IF ANYTHING BREAKS--
I KNOW! I'LL GET THERE FAST IF IT DOES!
AND SOON, AT THE GAY AFFAIR...
--AND GOTHAM CITY IS AGOG OVER THE APPEARANCE OF A BATWOMAN!
IT SOUNDS SILLY-- HOW COULD ANY WOMAN EVER EQUAL THE GREAT BATMAN!
YOU HAVE TO ADMIRE THIS BATWOMAN'S COURAGE, THOUGH!
SO SHE ADMIRES BATMAN! IF ONLY I COULD TELL HER I'M BATMAN--BUT I CAN'T!
BRUCE IS SO GOOD-LOOKING-- AND HE ADMIRES BATWOMAN! IF--SIGH--HE ONLY KNEW I'M BATWOMAN!
BUT SUDDENLY, AS THE FESTIVE AFFAIR DRAWS TO A CLOSE...
LOOK, THE BAT-SIGNAL! WONDER WHAT'S UP NOW?
SURE I DON'T KNOW-- OR CARE! GOODBYE, KATHY-- LOVELY PARTY!
DO COME AGAIN, BRUCE-- GOOD NIGHT ALL!
BUT ONCE OUT OF SIGHT OF OTHERS...
ROBIN WILL BE HERE IN SECONDS-- GOT TO CHANGE FAST!
I'VE GOT TO BECOME BATWOMAN FAST TO FIND OUT WHAT'S WRONG!
6

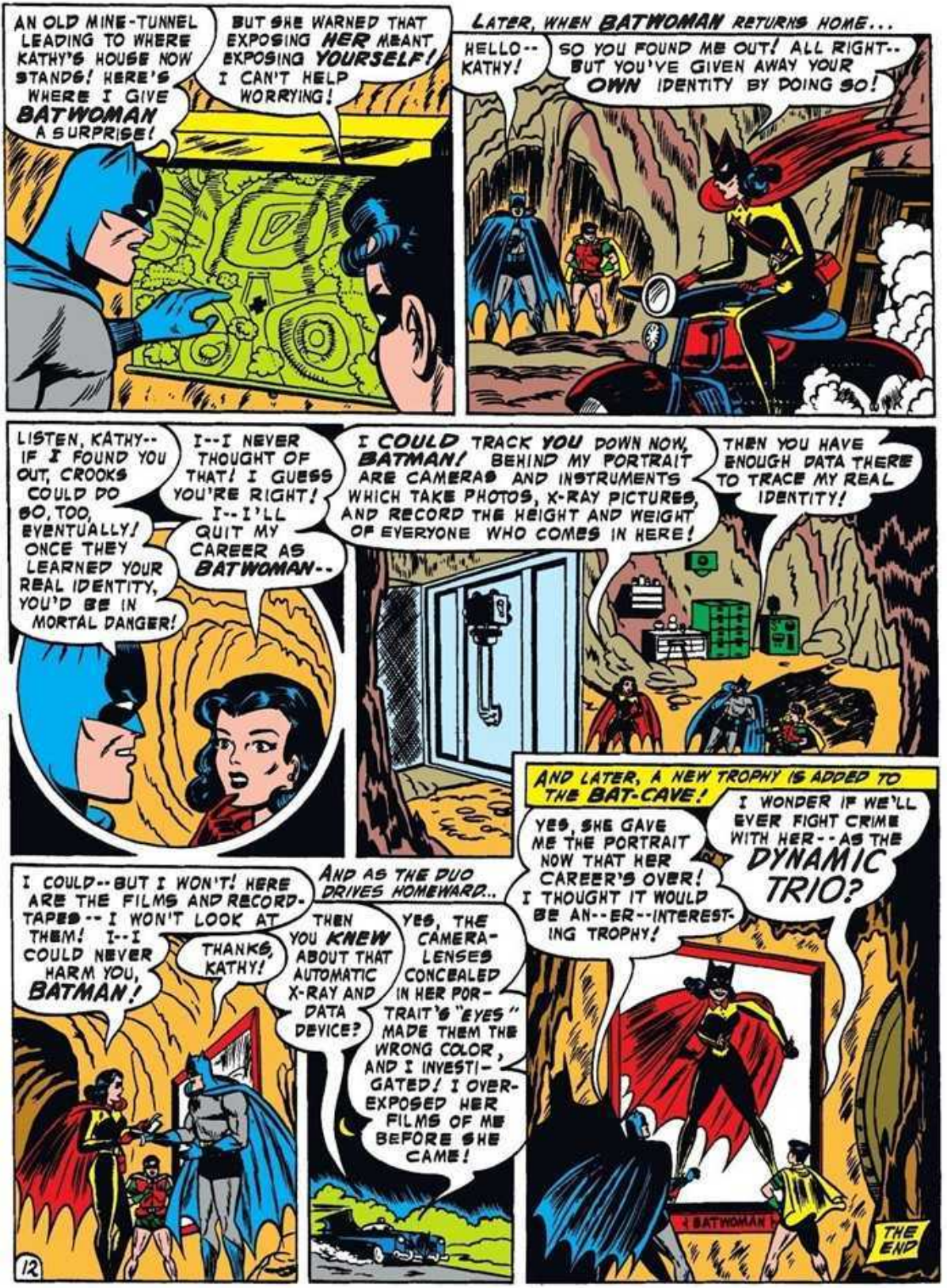
LISTEN, HERE'S A POLICE FLASH!
--ALARM AT THE "TOMORROW CLUB!"
IT'S THAT FUTURISTIC NIGHT-CLUB OUTSIDE TOWN! WE'LL TAKE THE WEST HIGHWAY!
BUT AS THE DYNAMIC DUO SPEEDS AWAY ON ITS URGENT MISSION...
BATWOMAN! SHE'S ANSWERING THE SIGNAL, TOO-- AND MUST HAVE CAUGHT THAT POLICE-RADIO FLASH!
WE CAN KEEP AHEAD OF HER! STEP ON IT!
BUT THE MASKED MYSTERY-GIRL ONCE AGAIN CLEVERLY MAKES USE OF HER BAT-CYCLE...
YOU CAN'T BEAT ME SO EASY, BATMAN-- A GOOD SCRATCH-RIDER CAN GO WHERE YOUR BATMOBILE CAN'T!
THAT BAT-CYCLE DOES GIVE HER A CHANCE TO SHORT-CUT!
AND SOON, AT THE FUTURISTIC "TOMORROW CLUB..."
THERE'S A THUG IN THERE WRECKING MY PLACE-- HE MUST BE CRAZY!
CLUB
THE NIGHT CLUB OF MANY WORLDS
I'LL STOP HIM!
AND I'D BETTER HURRY, FOR THERE COME BATMAN AND ROBIN NOW!
AND INSIDE THE EXOTIC MOON ROOM OF THE CLUB...
THIS IS NO PLACE FOR A GIRL-- PLEASE LET ME HANDLE IT!
NO, I'LL STAY, BATMAN. I MIGHT HAVE TO SAVE YOU AGAIN!
YES, SHE WENT IN TO CATCH THE MAN WHO'S WRECKING THE CLUB! BUT HE'S ARMED!
MIGHT HAVE KNOWN SHE'D DASH INTO DANGER! ROBIN, YOU GUARD THE OUTSIDE DOORS-- I'LL GET HER OUT OF HERE!
7

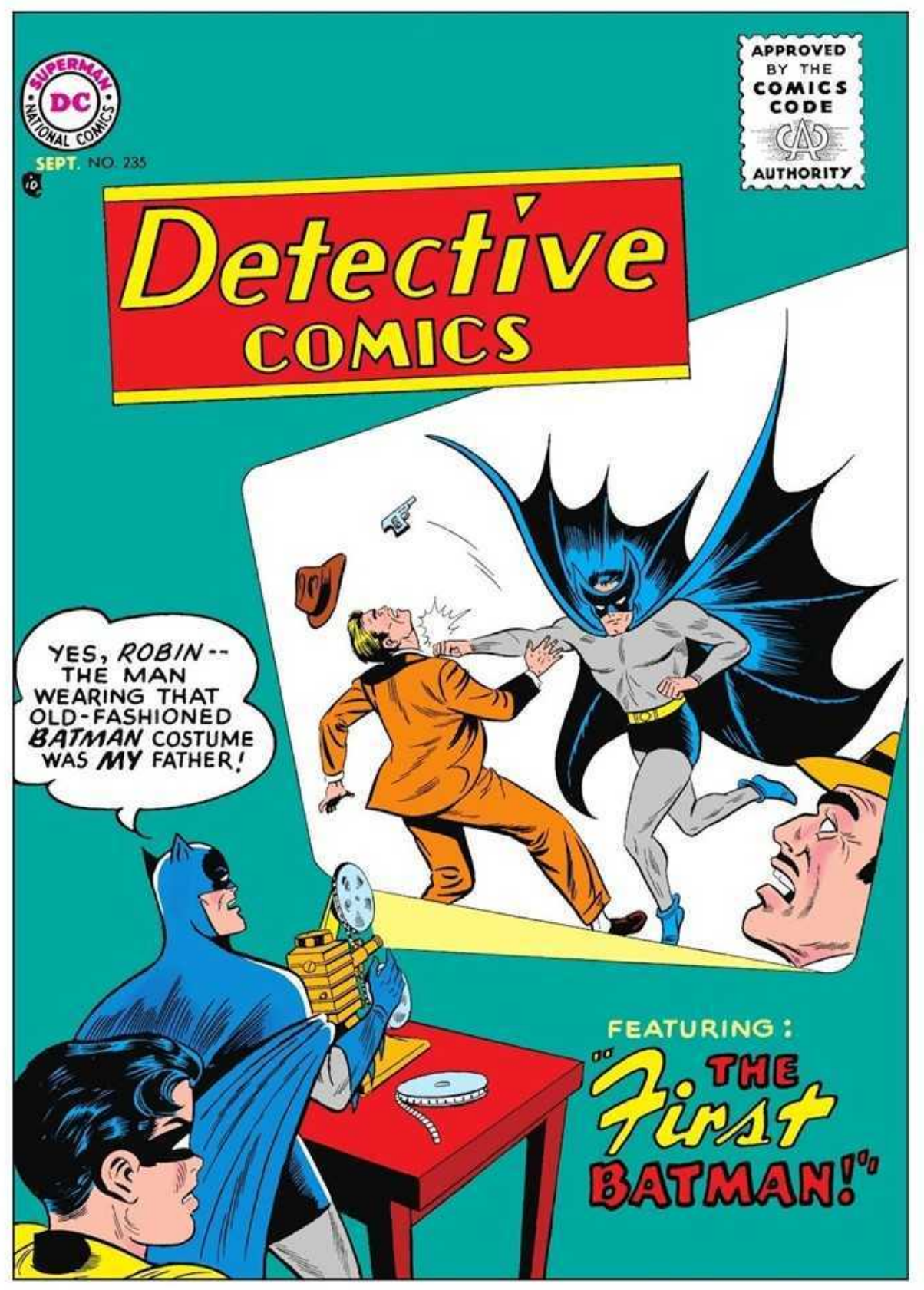
AND AS THE MASKED MANHUNTERS TENSELY SEARCH THE STRANGE, "INTERPLANETARY" ROOMS...
BATWOMAN, TO YOU THIS IS JUST A THRILL-- YOU DON'T REALIZE THAT FIGHTING CRIME IS A DANGEROUS BUSINESS!
THEN YOU'D BETTER STOP WORRYING OVER ME AND TEND TO BUSINESS--
MAR Room
-- FOR SOMEONE'S STARTED THOSE FAKE MARTIAN IDOLS FALLING TOWARD US!
QUICK, LOOP YOUR ROPE ON THE "CLIFF" THERE AND SWING!
AND AS MIGHTY "IDOLS" CRASH...
LOOKS LIKE YOU SAVED ME AGAIN! AND YOU'RE A SWELL ACROBAT, I'LL ADMIT!
YOU'RE A TERRIFIC TRAP-ARTIST YOURSELF!
THE CHASE LEADS TO THE VENUS WORLD EXHIBIT ROOM...
WHOEVER STARTED THOSE IDOLS FALLING DUCKED BACK INTO THIS VENUS ROOM!
AND HE'S IN THAT FAKE ROBOT-- SEE, TRACKS OF RED "MARTIAN DUST" LEAD TO IT!
VENUS THE ROBOT WORLD
BATWOMAN, GET BACK!
HAVE TO THRUST HER OUT OF THE WAY OF THAT BLOW--
THUD!
8

I'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE--
LOTS OF WOMEN CARRY A HAIRNET, BUT THE ONE I CARRY--
-- IS A BIG ONE-- AND SUPER-STRONG! IT'LL HOLD YOU!
THESE STRANDS-- CAN'T BREAK THEM-- I'M CAUGHT--
RETURNING TO THE UNCONSCIOUS BATMAN...
WHILE HE'S UNCONSCIOUS-- I COULD LIFT HIS MASK AND SEE WHO HE IS--
NO-- I CAN'T DO IT! HE GOT STUNNED ONLY BECAUSE HE TRIED TO SAVE ME FROM A BLOW! I'M TO BLAME FOR HIS PLIGHT. IT WOULDN'T BE FAIR FOR ME TO UNMASK HIM!
WHAT-- HOW--
BATMAN, I--OH! MAYBE I'M INTRUDING!
DON'T BE FOOLISH! BATWOMAN CAPTURED THE THUG WHO WAS WRECKING THE PLACE-- I WANT TO FIND OUT WHY HE WAS COMMITTING SENSELESS VANDALISM!
BUT THE DEFIANT CAPTIVE REFUSES TO TALK!
I KNOW YOUR RECORD-- YOU'RE ONE OF HUGO VORN'S MOB! WHY DID VORN HAVE YOU WRECK THIS PLACE?
YOU'LL FIND OUT!

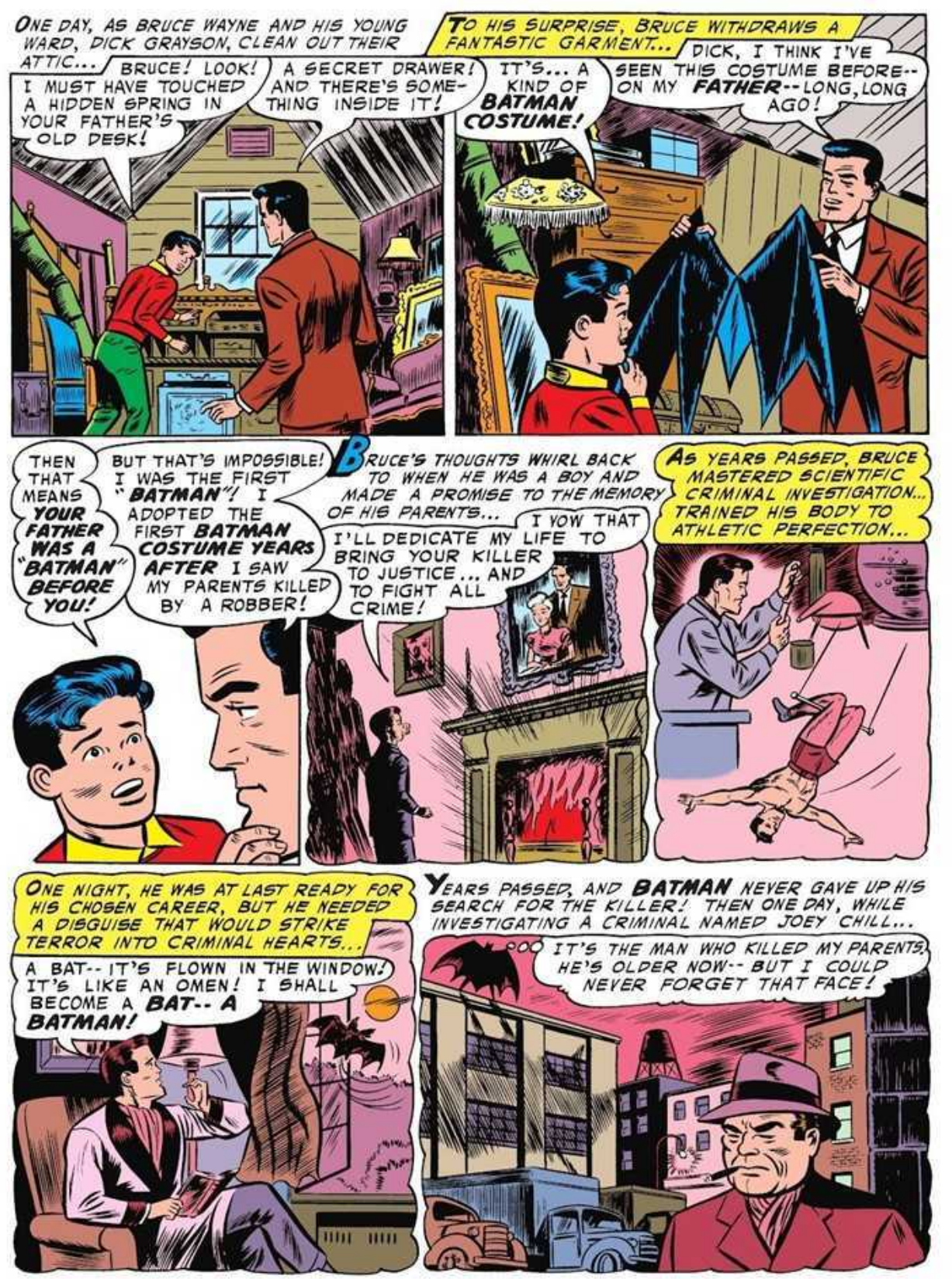
MOMENTS LATER, WHEN POLICE ARRIVE...
BATWOMAN'S MADE US LOOK LIKE AMATEURS, AGAIN!
BUT SHE MADE TWO SLIPS-- WHEN SHE REFERRED TO "SCRATCH-RIDERS" AND "TRAP-ARTISTS"! LATER, I'LL SHOW YOU HOW THAT CLUE WILL LEAD US TO HER IDENTITY!
CLUB
VORN WOULD ONLY HAVE ONE REASON TO ORDER THIS PLACE WRECKED-- TO DRAW US HERE WHILE HE COMMITTED SOME ROBBERY ELSEWHERE!
BUT WHEN I CALLED THE COMMISSIONER JUST NOW, HE SAID NOTHING HAD HAPPENED!
YOU'RE WRONG, ROBIN! THAT ADVERTISING BLIMP NORMALLY CRUISES OVER THE CITY EVERY NIGHT. BUT TONIGHT IT'S DROPPING TOWARD THE EAST SIDE SECTION--TOWARD THE MINT!
COME ON!
DRINK CARTER COFFEE
BUT BATWOMAN HAS OVERHEARD, AND RACES THE DYNAMIC DUO ON THE URGENT MISSION!
VORN COULD HAVE OVER-POWERED THE BLIMP'S PILOT BEFORE IT TOOK OFF, AND--
WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT-- BATWOMAN'S TRYING TO BEAT US AGAIN!
AT THE MINT, AS THE BLIMP DESCENDS TOWARD THE GUARDED YARD...
THE GAS-BAG'S LEAKING-- WE HAD TO MAKE AN EMERGENCY LANDING!
ALL RIGHT-- WE'LL HELP YOU REPAIR IT--
YOU HAVE HELPED US-- BY FALLING FOR OUR GAG!
HA, HA-- A SWELL IDEA, VORN! WE CAN LOOT THE PLACE AND GET AWAY IN THE BLIMP FAST!
10

BUT OUT OF THE UPPER NIGHT, THREE FLYING FIGURES PLUNGE DOWN...
BATMAN AND ROBIN-- AND BATWOMAN!
THERE'S ONLY TWO OF THEM-- THE GIRL DOESN'T COUNT!
BUT THIS GIRL DOES COUNT, IN A FRAY!
I'VE KEPT MY POWDER DRY, FOR EMERGENCIES LIKE THIS!
ACHOO!---THIS DAME IS TROUBLE!
BATMAN AND ROBIN WILL BE ON US NEXT-- OUT OF HERE IN THE BLIMP!
NO YOU DON'T! MY SHOULDER-BAG STRAP, WHICH HAS WEIGHTED ENDS, MAKES--
--A FINE BAT-BOLO, TO STOP THUGS LIKE YOU!
GOOD WORK, BATWOMAN! SINCE YOU CAUGHT VORN, WE'LL LEAVE YOU TO TURN THESE CROOKS OVER TO THE POLICE!
AS THE DUO LEAVES...
BUT, BATMAN, YOU FIGURED OUT VORN'S PLANS, AND WE DID AS MUCH AS SHE TO STOP THEM! YET YOU GIVE HER THE CREDIT!
I NEED A LITTLE TIME, TO TRACE THOSE "SCRATCH-RIDER" AND "TRAP-ARTIST" CLUES TO HER IDENTITY!
AND QUICKLY, IN THE BAT-CAVE'S GREAT FILES OF INFORMATION...
THOSE ARE CIRCUS TERMS-- SO BATWOMAN MUST BE AN EX-CIRCUS PER-FORMER WHO COULD DO BOTH STUNTS!
NOT MANY COULD DO BOTH--OUR FILE OF THEATRICAL AND CIRCUS PEOPLE OUGHT TO GIVE US A TIP!
AND SOON...
KATHY KANE! SHE NEVER SAID SHE WAS A CIRCUS GIRL-- BUT COME TO THINK OF IT, BATWOMAN CAME FROM THE DIRECTION OF HER HOUSE, LAST NIGHT!
SHE'D HAVE TO HAVE SOME SECRET ENTRANCE TO THE HOUSE--OUR CAVE AND TUNNEL CHARTS WILL TELL!
KATHY KANE, STAR TRAP-ARTIST AND TRICK MOTORCYCLE-RIDER!


AN OLD MINE-TUNNEL LEADING TO WHERE KATHY'S HOUSE NOW STANDS! HERE'S WHERE I GIVE BATWOMAN A SURPRISE!
BUT SHE WARNED THAT EXPOSING HER MEANT EXPOSING YOURSELF! I CAN'T HELP WORRYING!
LATER, WHEN BATWOMAN RETURNS HOME...
HELLO-- KATHY!
SO YOU FOUND ME OUT! ALL RIGHT-- BUT YOU'VE GIVEN AWAY YOUR OWN IDENTITY BY DOING SO!
LISTEN, KATHY-- IF I FOUND YOU OUT, CROOKS COULD DO SO, TOO, EVENTUALLY! ONCE THEY LEARNED YOUR REAL IDENTITY, YOU'D BE IN MORTAL DANGER!
I--I NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT! I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT! I--I'LL QUIT MY CAREER AS BATWOMAN--
I COULD TRACK YOU DOWN NOW, BATMAN! BEHIND MY PORTRAIT ARE CAMERAS AND INSTRUMENTS WHICH TAKE PHOTOS, X-RAY PICTURES, AND RECORD THE HEIGHT AND WEIGHT OF EVERYONE WHO COMES IN HERE!
THEN YOU HAVE ENOUGH DATA THERE TO TRACE MY REAL IDENTITY!
AND LATER, A NEW TROPHY IS ADDED TO THE BAT-CAVE!
YES, SHE GAVE ME THE PORTRAIT NOW THAT HER CAREER'S OVER! I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE AN--ER--INTERESTING TROPHY!
I WONDER IF WE'LL EVER FIGHT CRIME WITH HER--AS THE DYNAMIC TRIO?
I COULD--BUT I WON'T! HERE ARE THE FILMS AND RECORD-TAPES--I WON'T LOOK AT THEM! I--I COULD NEVER HARM YOU, BATMAN!
THANKS, KATHY!
AND AS THE DUO DRIVES HOMEWARD..
THEN YOU KNEW ABOUT THAT AUTOMATIC X-RAY AND DATA DEVICE?
YES, THE CAMERA-LENSES CONCEALED IN HER PORTRAIT'S "EYES" MADE THEM THE WRONG COLOR, AND I INVESTIGATED! I OVER-EXPOSED HER FILMS OF ME BEFORE SHE CAME!
BATWOMAN
THE END
12


SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
SEPT. NO. 235
10¢
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
Detective COMICS
YES, ROBIN -- THE MAN WEARING THAT OLD-FASHIONED BATMAN COSTUME WAS MY FATHER!
FEATURING:
"THE First BATMAN!"

BATMAN
AND
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
IN AN HONORED SPACE IN THE BAT-CAVE'S FAMED TROPHY ROOM HANGS A STRANGE YET ODDLY FAMILIAR GARB--THE COSTUME OF ANOTHER BATMAN! IMPOSSIBLE, YOU SAY?-- BRUCE WAYNE IS THE ONE AND ONLY... THE ORIGINAL BATMAN! WELL... HE IS-- AND HE ISN'T! READ ON, AND YOU'LL LEARN THE ASTONISHING ANSWER TO THIS PARADOX--READ ON, AND YOU'LL LEARN THE INSIDE STORY OF...
THE FIRST BATMAN
THERE IT IS, ROBIN-- THE COSTUME OF A BATMAN WHO FOUGHT CRIME EVEN BEFORE I STARTED MY OWN CAREER AS A CRIME-FIGHTER!
SHELDON MOLDOFF
BOB KANE


ONE DAY, AS BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, CLEAN OUT THEIR ATTIC...
BRUCE! LOOK! I MUST HAVE TOUCHED A HIDDEN SPRING IN YOUR FATHER'S OLD DESK!
A SECRET DRAWER! AND THERE'S SOMETHING INSIDE IT!
TO HIS SURPRISE, BRUCE WITHDRAWS A FANTASTIC GARMENT...
IT'S... A KIND OF BATMAN COSTUME!
DICK, I THINK I'VE SEEN THIS COSTUME BEFORE-- ON MY FATHER--LONG, LONG AGO!
THEN THAT MEANS YOUR FATHER WAS A "BATMAN" BEFORE YOU!
BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! I WAS THE FIRST "BATMAN"! I ADOPTED THE FIRST BATMAN COSTUME YEARS AFTER I SAW MY PARENTS KILLED BY A ROBBER!
BRUCE'S THOUGHTS WHIRL BACK TO WHEN HE WAS A BOY AND MADE A PROMISE TO THE MEMORY OF HIS PARENTS...
I VOW THAT I'LL DEDICATE MY LIFE TO BRING YOUR KILLER TO JUSTICE... AND TO FIGHT ALL CRIME!
AS YEARS PASSED, BRUCE MASTERED SCIENTIFIC CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION... TRAINED HIS BODY TO ATHLETIC PERFECTION...
ONE NIGHT, HE WAS AT LAST READY FOR HIS CHOSEN CAREER, BUT HE NEEDED A DISGUISE THAT WOULD STRIKE TERROR INTO CRIMINAL HEARTS...
A BAT-- IT'S FLOWN IN THE WINDOW! IT'S LIKE AN OMEN! I SHALL BECOME A BAT-- A BATMAN!
YEARS PASSED, AND BATMAN NEVER GAVE UP HIS SEARCH FOR THE KILLER! THEN ONE DAY, WHILE INVESTIGATING A CRIMINAL NAMED JOEY CHILL...
IT'S THE MAN WHO KILLED MY PARENTS. HE'S OLDER NOW-- BUT I COULD NEVER FORGET THAT FACE!

BUT, IRONICALLY, JOEY CHILL WAS SHOT DOWN BY OTHER MOBSTERS WHO HAD A GRUDGE AGAINST HIM...
BANG!
HE'S DEAD! HIS OWN CRIMES FINALLY CAUGHT UP WITH HIM!
THIS THEN, WAS THE ORIGIN OF BATMAN! THEN HOW COULD HIS FATHER HAVE BEEN A BATMAN BEFORE HIM?
LOOK! HERE'S SOMETHING ELSE IN THE DRAWER! A CAN OF MOVIE FILM AND A DIARY!
LET'S LOOK AT THE FILM FIRST! I'LL SET UP THE PROJECTOR!
SOON, THE TWO VIEW AN EPISODE FROM THE PAST...
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AS YOU ALL KNOW, THE THEME OF THIS YEAR'S MASQUERADE BALL IS "FLYING CREATURES"!
AND OUR FIRST PRIZE FOR THE BEST "FLYING CREATURE" COSTUME GOES TO DR. THOMAS WAYNE FOR HIS BAT-MAN COSTUME!
MY FATHER!
SUDDENLY...
WE FIGURED THERE'D BE A DOC IN THIS CROWD! COME ON, DOC-- WE NEED YOU! MAKE IT SNAPPY!
YOU CAN'T THREATEN ME!
ATTABOY, DAD!

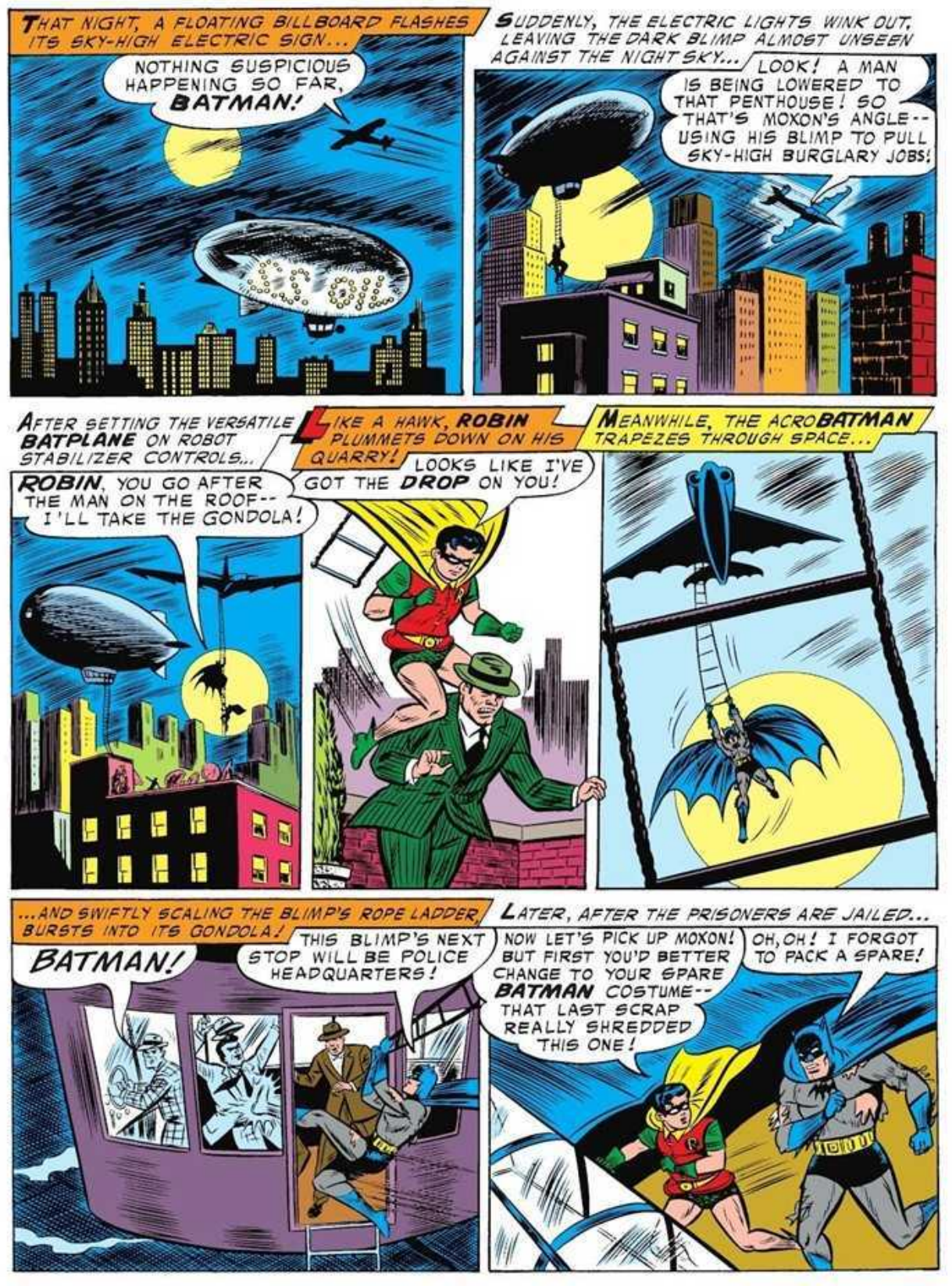
BETTER COME ALONG, DOC--OR SOMEBODY SURE IS GONNA GET HURT!
I--I HAVE NO CHOICE--NOW!
HERE THE MOVIE ABRUPTLY ENDS!
AT LEAST THE MOVIE TOLD US WHY YOUR FATHER WORE A BAT-MAN COSTUME!
LISTEN TO WHAT HIS DIARY SAYS...
"TONIGHT, MARTHA AND I ARE GOING TO THE ANNUAL MASQUERADE BALL! OUR LITTLE BOY SEEMS FASCINATED BY MY COSTUME..."
GEE, DADDY, I WISH I COULD WEAR A SUIT LIKE THAT!
I'LL SAVE IT FOR YOU, BRUCE--TO WEAR WHEN YOU GROW UP!
DICK, WHEN THAT BAT FLEW INTO MY ROOM, IT MUST HAVE PRODDED MY SUBCONSCIOUS MEMORY OF MY FATHER'S COSTUME! NOW I REALIZE I ADOPTED A BATMAN COSTUME BECAUSE I REMEMBERED MY FATHER WEARING ONE!
READING ON, BRUCE LEARNS WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THE HOODLUMS TOOK HIS FATHER FROM THE BALL...
"THE GUNMEN TOOK ME TO AN OLD WAREHOUSE WHERE THEIR BOSS WAS IN HIDING..."
YOU'RE LEW MOXON, THE BANK ROBBER THE POLICE ARE AFTER!
YEAH--ONE OF THEM WINGED ME! I WANT YOU TO REMOVE THE SLUG!
"I KNEW THAT ONCE I REMOVED THE BULLET, MOXON WOULD NEVER LET ME LIVE TO REVEAL HIS WHEREABOUTS TO THE POLICE..."
I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING--BUT WHAT?

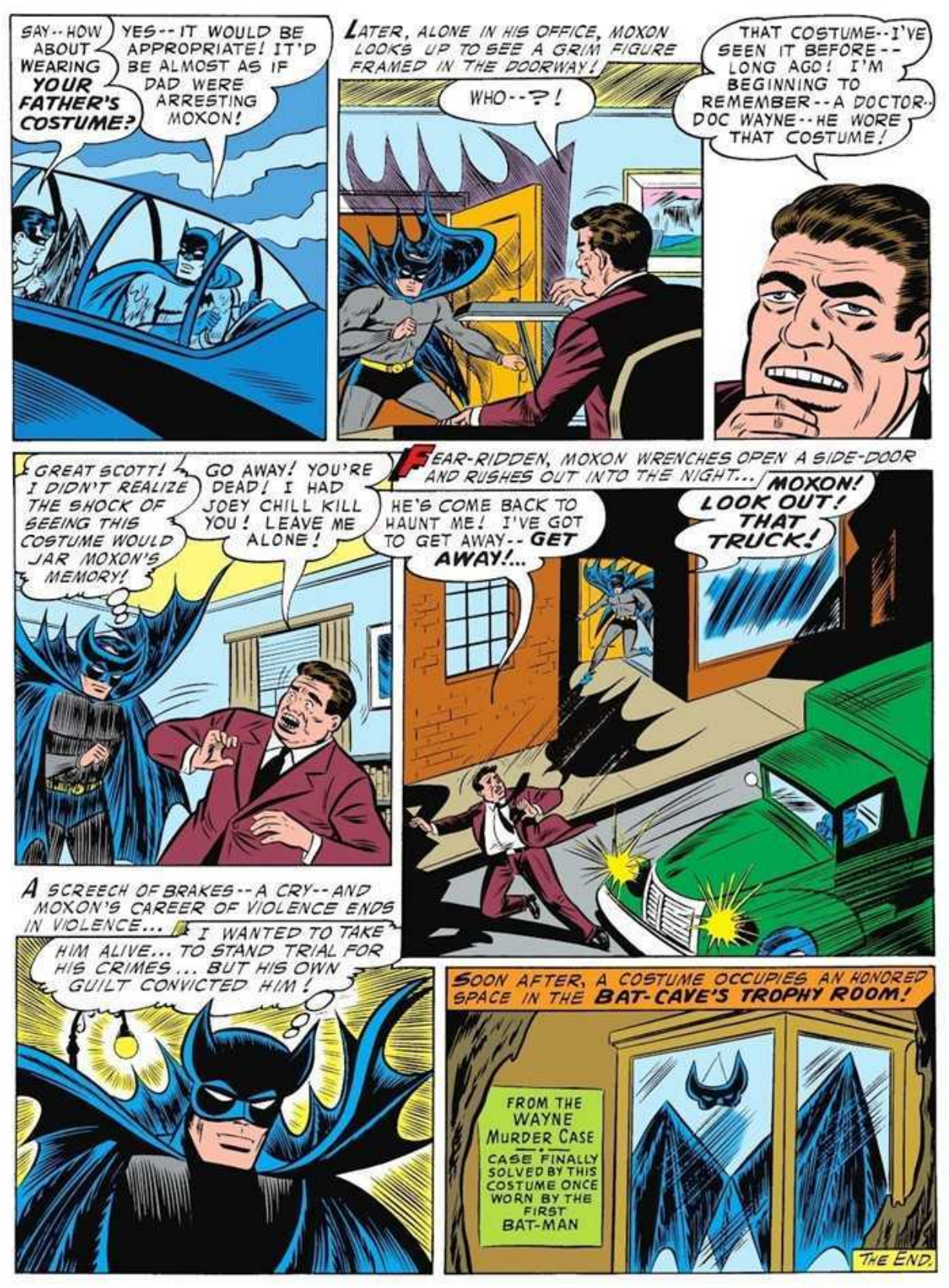
"I SUDDENLY HOOKED ONE FOOT AROUND MOXON'S CHAIR AND..."
WHAT...?!
"THAT LEFT ONLY TWO HOODLUMS TO DEAL WITH!"
I'LL LET THE POLICE TAKE OVER FROM HERE!
WOW! EVEN THOUGH HE DIDN'T HAVE ANY TRAINING IN FIGHTING CROOKS, YOUR FATHER PULLED A TYPICAL BATMAN STUNT!
MY FATHER WAS QUITE A GUY!
THE DIARY CONTINUES--"AT HIS TRIAL, MOXON WAS SENTENCED TO TEN YEARS FOR ARMED ROBBERY..."
YOU DID THIS TO ME! I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS, WAYNE-- I'LL GET YOU!
"TEN YEARS ROLLED BY! I'D INVESTED MY SAVINGS WISELY AND BECAME WEALTHY! I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN MOXON UNTIL TODAY..."
MOXON--FREE!
YEAH--I SERVED MY TEN YEARS IN JAIL--WHERE YOU PUT ME! I SWORE I'D GET YOU, AND I WILL!
BUT I'M TOO SMART TO DO IT MYSELF! THE POLICE WOULD ARREST ME ON SUSPICION FAST! I'LL GET SOMEONE ELSE TO DO IT FOR ME!
HERE THE DIARY ENDS!
THIS MEANS JOEY CHILL ONLY PRETENDED TO BE A HOLDUP MAN--ACTUALLY HE WAS MOXON'S HIRED KILLER! MOXON MUST HAVE ORDERED CHILL NOT TO KILL ME, TOO--SO I'D BE ALIVE TO TESTIFY THAT MY PARENTS WERE KILLED BY A ROBBER!

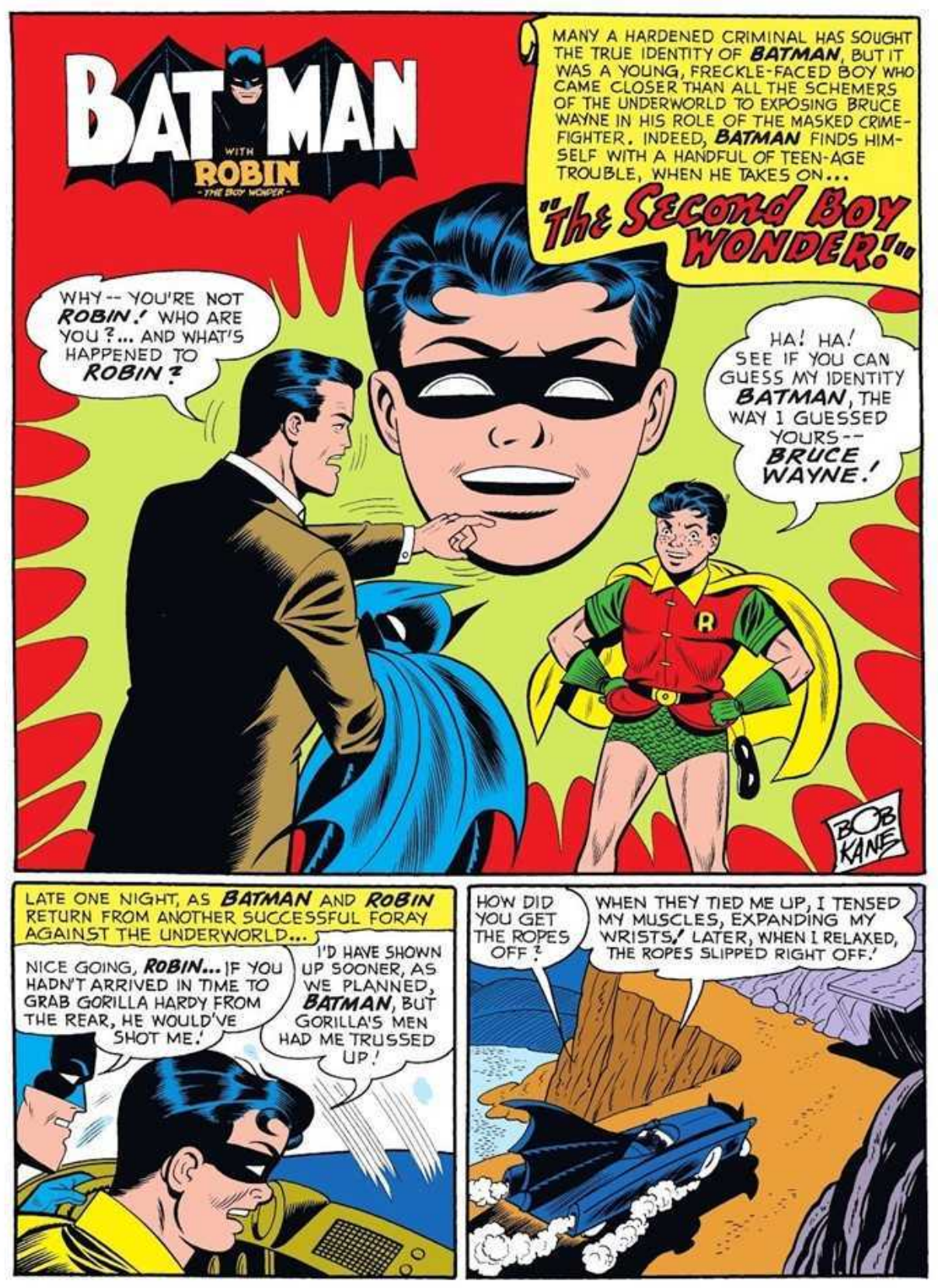
GOSH, BRUCE-- MOXON USED YOU AS HIS ALIBI!
HE USED ME AS A COVERUP FOR HIS DELIBERATE MURDER OF MY PARENTS! PUT ON YOUR COSTUME, DICK-- WE'VE JUST REOPENED THE WAYNE MURDER CASE!
LATER, IN THE OFFICE OF POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON...
COMMISSIONER, I'D LIKE TO KNOW THE WHEREABOUTS OF LEW MOXON!
I'LL HAVE THIS TELE-PHOTOED TO EVERY POLICE DEPART-MENT IN THE COUNTRY!
AND WHEN THE INFORMATION COMES...
MOXON IS NOW IN THE BILLBOARD BLIMP BUSINESS OUT WEST-- IN COASTAL CITY!
SOON AFTER, THE SLEEK BATPLANE RACES THROUGH THE SKIES...
WHY DID YOU HAVE ME BRING ALONG YOUR FATHER'S COSTUME, BATMAN?
IT GIVES ME THE FEELING THAT MY FATHER IS WITH ME ON THIS CASE!
HOURS LATER, AT THEIR DESTINATION, TWO FIGURES MOVE LIKE SHADOWS TOWARDS A BLIMP HANGAR...
MOXON SKY-HI ADVERTISING CO.
BUT, IN THE DARKNESS, ROBIN'S FOOT KICKS A MISPLACED GASOLINE CAN...
CLANK
BATMAN AND ROBIN! GET 'EM!

AS ROBIN DARTS FORWARD, A SWINGING SANDBAG TREACHEROUSLY FELLS HIM!
UH-H!
WE GOT THE BRAT! BATMAN WILL BE EASIER TO TAKE NOW!
BOP!
UNDER THE IMPACT OF FOUR THUGS, BATMAN IS BROUGHT DOWN...
... BUT NOT FOR LONG!
THIS'LL TAKE THE FIGHT OUT OF ALL OF YOU!
LATER...
LEW MOXON, I'M CHARGING YOU WITH THE MURDER OF DR. THOMAS WAYNE!
IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE AFTER ME FOR?
INCREDIBLY, A SMILE OF RELIEF PASSES OVER THE ACCUSED'S FACE...
I NEVER HEARD OF ANY DR. WAYNE! I'M EVEN WILLING TO TAKE THE LIE DETECTOR TEST TO PROVE IT!
ALL RIGHT, WE'LL SOON SEE IF YOU ARE LYING!

SOON...
DIDN'T YOU HIRE JOEY CHILL TO MURDER DR. WAYNE?
NO! I NEVER EVEN HEARD OF JOEY CHILL!
YOU KNOW YOU HATED DR. WAYNE, THAT YOU SWORE YOU'D GET HIM!
I DON'T KNOW ANY DR. WAYNE-- AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKIN' ABOUT!
BATMAN CONTINUES TO HAMMER QUESTIONS AT THE PRISONER, AND WHEN THE INTERROGATION IS OVER...
SEE FOR YOURSELF, BATMAN-- THE NEEDLE DIDN'T JUMP ONCE. NOBODY CAN BEAT THE MACHINE-- SO HE MUST BE TELLING THE TRUTH!
HELPLESSLY, BATMAN SEES MOXON RELEASED ON BAIL FOR ASSAULT AND BATTERY...
HOW COULD MOXON BE TELLING THE TRUTH WHEN WE KNOW HE WAS INVOLVED IN YOUR FATHER'S MURDER? THAT'S SOMETHING NOBODY CAN FORGET!
FORGET? HMM-MM! I THINK I'LL PLACE A LONG DISTANCE PHONE CALL TO POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON!
LATER...
YOU SAY MOXON WAS IN AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT RIGHT AFTER DR. WAYNE WAS MURDERED?
YES! HE HAD A HEAD INJURY! ONE DAY HE WANDERED AWAY FROM THE HOSPITAL AND NOBODY EVER SAW HIM AFTER THAT.
ROBIN, THAT HEAD INJURY GAVE MOXON AMNESIA, LOSS OF MEMORY! HE DOESN'T REMEMBER MY FATHER OR ANYTHING THAT HAPPENED BEFORE THE AUTO ACCIDENT!
GOLLY! WHAT'LL WE DO NOW?
KEEP AFTER MOXON! HE MUST BE INVOLVED IN SOMETHING SHADY--OTHERWISE HIS MEN WOULDN'T HAVE JUMPED US! TONIGHT WE'RE GOING TO TRAIL HIS BLIMP!


THAT NIGHT, A FLOATING BILLBOARD FLASHES ITS SKY-HIGH ELECTRIC SIGN...
NOTHING SUSPICIOUS HAPPENING SO FAR, BATMAN!
SUDDENLY, THE ELECTRIC LIGHTS WINK OUT, LEAVING THE DARK BLIMP ALMOST UNSEEN AGAINST THE NIGHT SKY...
LOOK! A MAN IS BEING LOWERED TO THAT PENTHOUSE! SO THAT'S MOXON'S ANGLE-- USING HIS BLIMP TO PULL SKY-HIGH BURGLARY JOBS!
AFTER SETTING THE VERSATILE BATPLANE ON ROBOT STABILIZER CONTROLS...
ROBIN, YOU GO AFTER THE MAN ON THE ROOF-- I'LL TAKE THE GONDOLA!
LIKE A HAWK, ROBIN PLUMMETS DOWN ON HIS QUARRY!
LOOKS LIKE I'VE GOT THE DROP ON YOU!
MEANWHILE, THE ACRO BATMAN TRAPEZES THROUGH SPACE...
...AND SWIFTLY SCALING THE BLIMP'S ROPE LADDER, BURSTS INTO ITS GONDOLA!
BATMAN!
THIS BLIMP'S NEXT STOP WILL BE POLICE HEADQUARTERS!
LATER, AFTER THE PRISONERS ARE JAILED...
NOW LET'S PICK UP MOXON! BUT FIRST YOU'D BETTER CHANGE TO YOUR SPARE BATMAN COSTUME-- THAT LAST SCRAP REALLY SHREDDED THIS ONE!
OH, OH! I FORGOT TO PACK A SPARE!


SAY--HOW ABOUT WEARING YOUR FATHER'S COSTUME?
YES--IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE! IT'D BE ALMOST AS IF DAD WERE ARRESTING MOXON!
LATER, ALONE IN HIS OFFICE, MOXON LOOKS UP TO SEE A GRIM FIGURE FRAMED IN THE DOORWAY!
WHO--?!
THAT COSTUME--I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE--LONG AGO! I'M BEGINNING TO REMEMBER--A DOCTOR--DOC WAYNE--HE WORE THAT COSTUME!
GREAT SCOTT! I DIDN'T REALIZE THE SHOCK OF SEEING THIS COSTUME WOULD JAR MOXON'S MEMORY!
GO AWAY! YOU'RE DEAD! I HAD JOEY CHILL KILL YOU! LEAVE ME ALONE!
FEAR-RIDDEN, MOXON WRENCHES OPEN A SIDE-DOOR AND RUSHES OUT INTO THE NIGHT...
HE'S COME BACK TO HAUNT ME! I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY--GET AWAY!...
MOXON! LOOK OUT! THAT TRUCK!
A SCREECH OF BRAKES--A CRY--AND MOXON'S CAREER OF VIOLENCE ENDS IN VIOLENCE...
I WANTED TO TAKE HIM ALIVE... TO STAND TRIAL FOR HIS CRIMES... BUT HIS OWN GUILT CONVICTED HIM!
SOON AFTER, A COSTUME OCCUPIES AN HONORED SPACE IN THE BAT-CAVE'S TROPHY ROOM!
FROM THE WAYNE MURDER CASE
CASE FINALLY SOLVED BY THIS COSTUME ONCE WORN BY THE FIRST BAT-MAN
THE END.


BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-
MANY A HARDENED CRIMINAL HAS SOUGHT THE TRUE IDENTITY OF BATMAN, BUT IT WAS A YOUNG, FRECKLE-FACED BOY WHO CAME CLOSER THAN ALL THE SCHEMERS OF THE UNDERWORLD TO EXPOSING BRUCE WAYNE IN HIS ROLE OF THE MASKED CRIME-FIGHTER. INDEED, BATMAN FINDS HIMSELF WITH A HANDFUL OF TEEN-AGE TROUBLE, WHEN HE TAKES ON...
"The Second Boy Wonder!"
WHY -- YOU'RE NOT ROBIN.! WHO ARE YOU?... AND WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ROBIN?
HA! HA! SEE IF YOU CAN GUESS MY IDENTITY BATMAN, THE WAY I GUESSED YOURS -- BRUCE WAYNE.!
BOB KANE
LATE ONE NIGHT, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN RETURN FROM ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL FORAY AGAINST THE UNDERWORLD...
NICE GOING, ROBIN... IF YOU HADN'T ARRIVED IN TIME TO GRAB GORILLA HARDY FROM THE REAR, HE WOULD'VE SHOT ME.!
I'D HAVE SHOWN UP SOONER, AS WE PLANNED, BATMAN, BUT GORILLA'S MEN HAD ME TRUSSED UP!
HOW DID YOU GET THE ROPES OFF?
WHEN THEY TIED ME UP, I TENSED MY MUSCLES, EXPANDING MY WRISTS. LATER, WHEN I RELAXED, THE ROPES SLIPPED RIGHT OFF.!

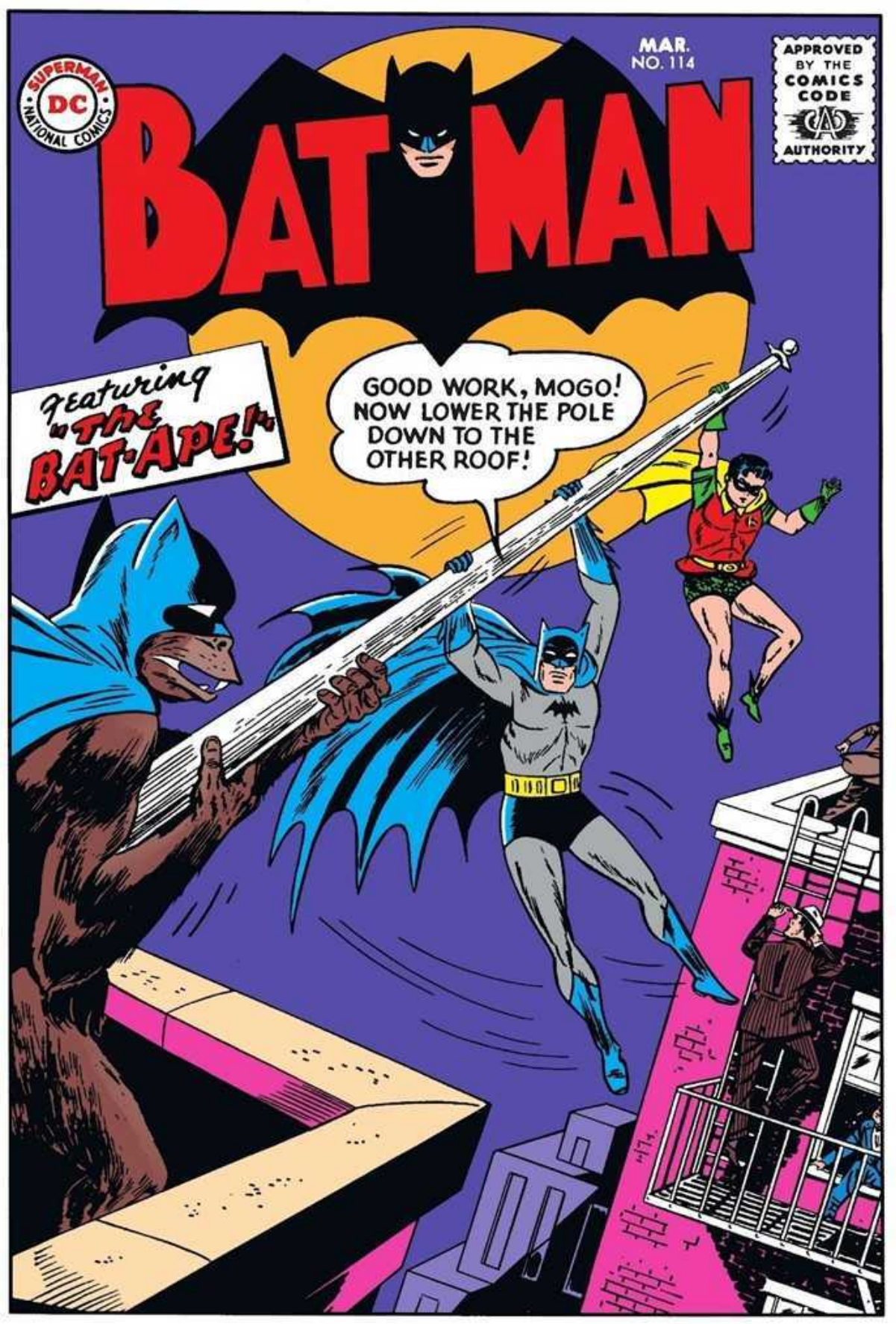
AS THE DARING DUO ENTERS THE DARKENED BAT-CAVE...
I'LL SWITCH ON THE LIGHT, BATMAN!
ALFRED MUST BE WAITING FOR US... I SAW A LIGHT ON IN THE HOUSE, AS WE DROVE UP!
I HOPE HE'S GOT SOME FOOD FOR US... ALL THAT ACTION KIND OF WORKED UP MY APPETITE!
CLICK!
QUICKLY, BATMAN REMOVES HIS FAMOUS COSTUME...
SAY, YOU HAVEN'T EVEN STARTED CHANGING! WHAT'S HOLDING YOU UP, ROBIN?
OH--JUST A LITTLE SURPRISE I'M PLANNING FOR YOU...
AND AS THE BOY WONDER REMOVES HIS MASK...
WHAT--? WHY... YOU'RE NOT ROBIN!
YOU MEAN I'M NOT DICK GRAYSON -- THE FIRST BOY WHO PLAYED THE ROLE OF ROBIN!
THIS IS CRAZY! WHO ARE YOU? HOW DID YOU GET THAT COSTUME?
JUST CALL ME FREDDY! ROBIN -- DICK, THAT IS -- WAS INJURED IN HIS FIGHT WITH GORILLA'S MEN... HE STAGGERED TO MY HOUSE FOR HELP!
ROBIN WAS SUPPOSED TO MEET YOU, AND HE KNEW YOU MIGHT NEED HIM... SO AFTER I BANDAGED HIS WOUND, HE GAVE ME THIS COSTUME AND ASKED ME TO REPLACE HIM!
GOOD EVENING, MISTER BRUCE AND MASTER... EGAD! THAT'S NOT MASTER DICK!
YOU'RE NO MORE SURPRISED THAN I, ALFRED! TELL ME, FREDDY, IF YOU'RE NOT ROBIN, HOW WERE YOU ABLE TO SWING IN ON THAT WINDOW CURTAIN AND GRAB THE GORILLA?
THAT WAS EASY! YOU SEE, I'M FRED LOYD...
2

"... THE SON OF HANK LOYD, THE OLYMPIC DECATHLON CHAMPION! FROM THE TIME I WAS FIVE YEARS OLD, DAD TRAINED ME..."
"AT AGE 8, I COULD THROW A JAVELIN AS FAR AS OTHER KIDS THREW A RUBBER BALL!"
"AT 9, I COULD POLE VAULT TEN FEET!"
"AT 10, I KNEW ALL THE AERIAL TRICKS!"
SO YOU SEE, IT WAS FATE THAT BROUGHT ROBIN TO MY DOOR! I'M PROBABLY THE ONLY OTHER BOY WHO COULD DO HIS STUNTS!
MR. WAYNE -- LOOK! THE BAT-SIGNAL!
SWIFTLY, BRUCE WAYNE DONS HIS CRIME-FIGHTING GARB...
NO TIME TO TALK NOW! WAIT HERE TILL I RETURN, FREDDY... WE'LL STRAIGHTEN THIS OUT THEN!
WAIT NOTHING! I WAS GOOD ENOUGH TO HELP YOU GRAB GORILLA HARDY, AND I'M COMING WITH YOU!
BESIDES, I KNOW YOUR TRUE IDENTITY NOW... SO EITHER I WORK WITH YOU, OR I TELL THE WORLD WHO YOU REALLY ARE!
GOOD GRIEF!
FACED WITH EXPOSURE OF HIS GREATEST SECRET, BATMAN IS FORCED TO GIVE IN TO FREDDY...
BATMAN, THIS IS HEADQUARTERS! EN ROUTE TO JAIL, THE GORILLA AND HIS GANG ATTEMPTED AN ESCAPE! WE'VE GOT THEM SURROUNDED AT GOTHAM FUN PARK AND MAY NEED YOUR HELP!
YOU WANTED SOME ACTION, FREDDY... WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO GET IT!
3

UPON REACHING THE COLORFUL AMUSEMENT PARK...
WE'VE GOT THE GORILLA AND TWO OF HIS MEN TRAPPED IN THIS HOUSE OF MIRRORS, BUT WE CAN'T OPEN FIRE WITHOUT ENDANGERING INNOCENT PEOPLE!
ALL RIGHT, CAPTAIN... FRED- I MEAN, ROBIN AND I WILL SEE WHAT WE CAN DO!
CUSTARD
FUN HO
254
NOW DON'T TAKE ANY EXTRA CHANCES, FREDDY... JUST FOLLOW MY LEAD!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, BATMAN... I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF!
JUST THEN...
BATMAN, LOOK... THE GORILLA! LET'S GET HIM!
WAIT--THOSE MIRRORS GIVE ME AN IDEA...
A MOMENT LATER...
YOU MIGHT AS WELL GIVE UP, GORILLA... YOU'RE TRAPPED!
HAW! YOU MUST BE GOIN' SOFT IN THE HEAD, BATMAN, WALKIN' RIGHT INTO MY GUN THAT WAY!
THIS IS YOUR FINISH... HUH? IT WAS JUST A MIRROR!
CRASH!
BANG!
THIS TIME I WON'T... BLAST IT! WHICH ONE OF YOU IS REAL?
CRASH!
BANG! BANG!
CRASH!
4

PANIC-STRICKEN, GORILLA HARDY MAKES A DASH FOR FREEDOM...
CAN'T WASTE ANY MORE TIME HERE... GOTTA GET OUT!
WE'VE GOT TO STOP HIM... BUT HOW?
QUICKLY, BATMAN DEVISES A PLAN...
IF WE CAN JUST ROLL THIS MIRROR TO THE RIGHT SPOT, ROBIN...
I GET YOU, BATMAN... GOOD PLAN!
SO LONG, YOU... OWWW!
THAT SHOULD DO IT!
CRASH!
SOON AFTERWARD...
HERE'S YOUR PRISONER, CAPTAIN!
GREAT WORK, BATMAN AND ROBIN! WE'VE ALREADY CAUGHT THE REST OF THE GANG!
LATER, BACK AT THE BAT-CAVE...
WELL, BATMAN, NOW I GUESS YOU'LL WANT TO RUN OVER TO MY HOUSE AND PICK UP THE REAL ROBIN, EH?
NO HURRY, FREDDY... YOU PROVED TONIGHT THAT YOU'RE AS GOOD A CRIME-FIGHTER AS DICK! RIGHT, ALFRED?
QUITE SO, MR. WAYNE! MASTER FREDDY HAS PROVED HIMSELF A TRUE MATCH FOR MASTER DICK!
WHAT--? IS THAT ALL THEY CAN SAY {GULP} AFTER ALL THESE YEARS?
5

A FINE PAIR YOU TWO TURNED OUT TO BE! SELLING OUT YOUR BEST FRIEND, FIRST CHANCE YOU GET!
BUT FREDDY... ER... WE WERE ONLY STATING WHAT'S TRUE!
WITH AN ANGRY YANK OF THE HAND, "FREDDY" WHIPS OFF A RUBBER FACE MASK, TO REVEAL...
DICK!
YES--IT'S ME, THE REAL ROBIN! I WANTED TO SEE IF I WAS AS GOOD AS YOU AT DISGUISES, BRUCE, AND IT WORKED! I HAD YOU BOTH FOOLED!
ABRUPTLY...
HA! HA! HA!
HO, HO... SO THAT WAS HIS REASON.
WHAT'S SO FUNNY? HEY... WAIT A MINUTE! YOU TWO KNEW IT WAS I ALL ALONG, DIDN'T YOU?
YES, DICK, I KNEW IT WAS YOU UNDER THIS MASK FROM THE START.
BUT HOW? THE DISGUISE WAS PERFECT!
HOW, INDEED, DID BRUCE FIGURE IT OUT? CAN YOU GUESS?
"THINK BACK, DICK, TO WHEN WE FIRST ENTERED THE BAT-CAVE... YOU WERE THE ONE WHO SWITCHED ON THE LIGHT--REMEMBER?"
CLICK!
WELL, IF YOU WERE REALLY A STRANGER TO THE BAT-CAVE, YOU NEVER COULD HAVE WALKED STRAIGHT TO THE LIGHT SWITCH IN PITCH DARKNESS! I REALIZED THAT THE MOMENT YOU REVEALED YOURSELF AS FREDDY...
... SO I TIPPED OFF ALFRED WITH A WINK, AND WE LET YOU CONTINUE YOUR GAME, TO TEACH YOU A LESSON!
AND I SURE LEARNED IT! YOU CAN'T BEAT THE MASTER OF DISGUISE AT HIS OWN GAME--EH, BATMAN?
6
Dick Sprang


SUPERMAN
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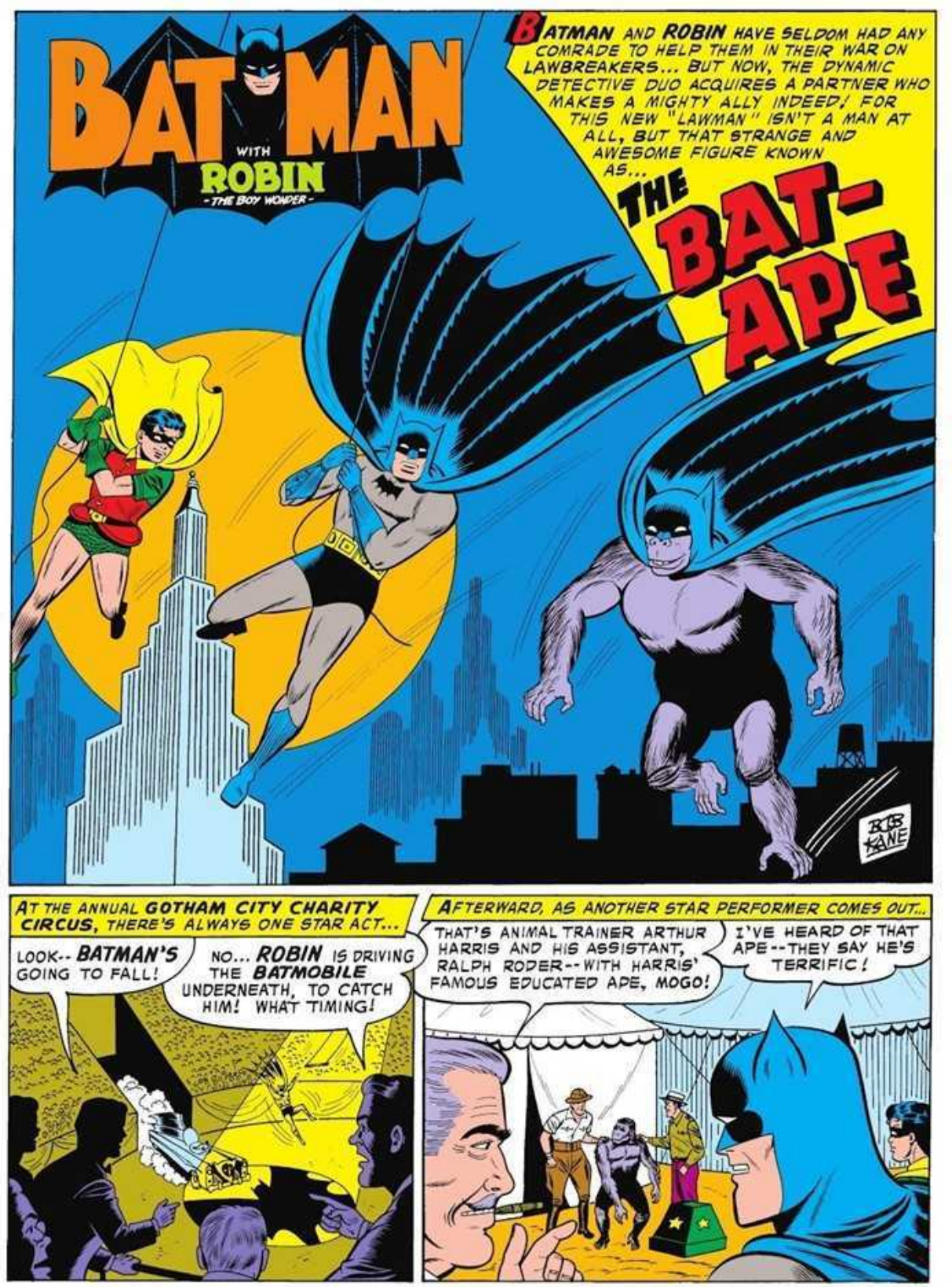
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
BAT MAN
featuring "THE BAT-APE!"
GOOD WORK, MOGO! NOW LOWER THE POLE DOWN TO THE OTHER ROOF!


BATMAN WITH ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -
BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE SELDOM HAD ANY COMRADE TO HELP THEM IN THEIR WAR ON LAWBREAKERS... BUT NOW, THE DYNAMIC DETECTIVE DUO ACQUIRES A PARTNER WHO MAKES A MIGHTY ALLY INDEED! FOR THIS NEW "LAWMAN" ISN'T A MAN AT ALL, BUT THAT STRANGE AND AWESOME FIGURE KNOWN AS...
THE BAT-APE
BOB KANE
AT THE ANNUAL GOTHAM CITY CHARITY CIRCUS, THERE'S ALWAYS ONE STAR ACT...
LOOK-- BATMAN'S GOING TO FALL!
NO... ROBIN IS DRIVING THE BATMOBILE UNDERNEATH, TO CATCH HIM! WHAT TIMING!
AFTERWARD, AS ANOTHER STAR PERFORMER COMES OUT...
THAT'S ANIMAL TRAINER ARTHUR HARRIS AND HIS ASSISTANT, RALPH RODER--WITH HARRIS' FAMOUS EDUCATED APE, MOGO!
I'VE HEARD OF THAT APE--THEY SAY HE'S TERRIFIC!

HA, HA... HE'S SURE FRIENDLY!
HE LIKES YOU, BATMAN... COME ON, MOGO-- TIME FOR YOUR ACROBATIC ACT!
AND AS MOGO PERFORMS HIS STUNTS...
WOW! WHAT A PARTNER HE'D MAKE IF HE HAD HUMAN INTELLIGENCE!
BUT SUDDENLY...
AARRGH
LOOK OUT! THE APE'S GONE BERSERK!
HE'S GOING TO LEAP!
BUT, BEFORE THE ENRAGED BEAST CAN CAUSE ANY DESTRUCTION...
MOGO, WHAT'S COME OVER YOU? CALM DOWN... CALM DOWN, I SAY!
LOOK! THE APE'S DOING JUST AS HE'S TOLD! HARRIS SURE HAS A WAY WITH THAT ANIMAL!
JUST THEN, HOWEVER...
BATMAN-- HELP! BANDITS!
WHAT--?
OUTSIDE, AT THE BOX-OFFICE WAGON...
MASKED THIEVES GRABBED THE RECEIPTS! --- I HEARD ONE OF THEM SAY, "NOW'S OUR CHANCE, WITH THE APE RAISING THAT RUCKUS!"
CASHIER
AND SOON, WHEN POLICE ARRIVE...
HARRIS, YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD SCARE THE CROWD INTO CAUSING A COMMOTION TO COVER YOUR PALS' ROBBERY!
BUT I DIDN'T! I DON'T KNOW WHAT ANGERED MOGO!
2

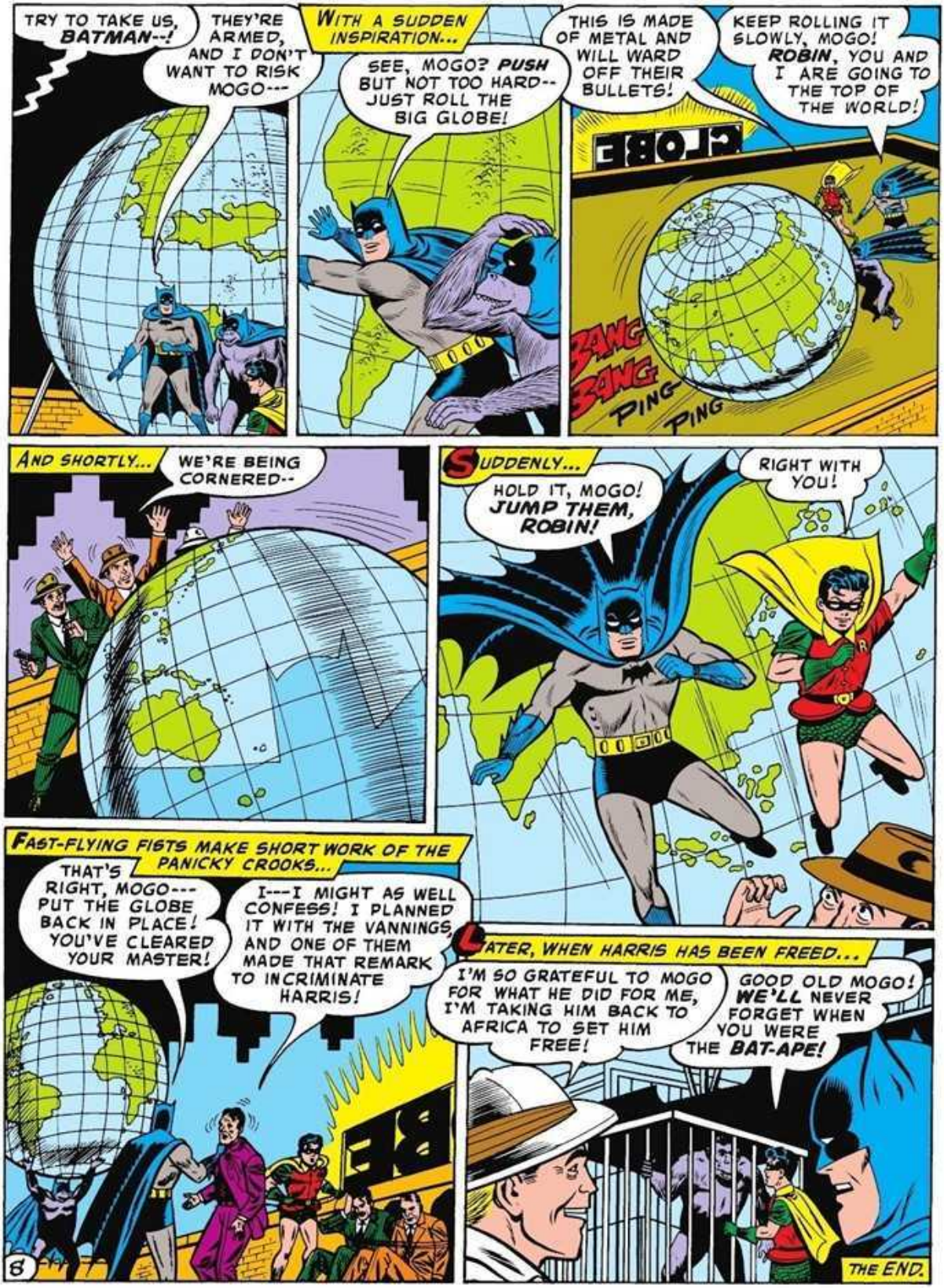
IT'S TOO COINCIDENTAL! WE'LL HAVE TO HOLD YOU ON SUSPICION TILL WE INVESTIGATE!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF MOGO, MR. HARRIS, UNTIL YOU CLEAR YOURSELF AND RETURN!
TAKE GOOD CARE OF HIM, RODER!... NO, MOGO, YOU CAN'T COME WITH ME THIS TIME! GO HOME WITH RODER!
POOR MOGO LOOKS VERY UNHAPPY!
AFTER THE OTHERS HAVE LEFT...
BATMAN, WE SHOULD BE LOOKING FOR THOSE THIEVES--
HM, IF MOGO WENT BERSERK AT HARRIS' ORDERS, WHY DID HE DO SO ONLY WHEN HE REACHED THAT HIGH PLATFORM? LET'S TAKE A LOOK--
ROBIN-- DON'T TOUCH IT! AN ELECTRIC WIRE IS CONNECTED TO THE METAL PLATFORM, TO PRODUCE A SHOCK!
THEN THAT'S WHY MOGO WENT INTO A RAGE--ONLY HE USED THIS SPECIAL PLATFORM!
MINUTES LATER...
WE'LL FIND OUT FROM HARRIS' ASSISTANT, RODER, WHO COULD HAVE RIGGED THAT WIRE!
IT WAS A CUNNING WAY TO START A PANIC, ALL RIGHT!
AT THE TRAINER'S HOME, OUTSIDE GOTHAM CITY...
I--I WAS AFRAID HE'D GO BERSERK AGAIN, THAT'S WHY I PUT HIM IN THIS STRONGER CAGE!
IT'S TOO SMALL! PUT HIM BACK IN HIS REGULAR CAGE, AND TREAT HIM WELL AS HARRIS ORDERED YOU!
MOGO
3

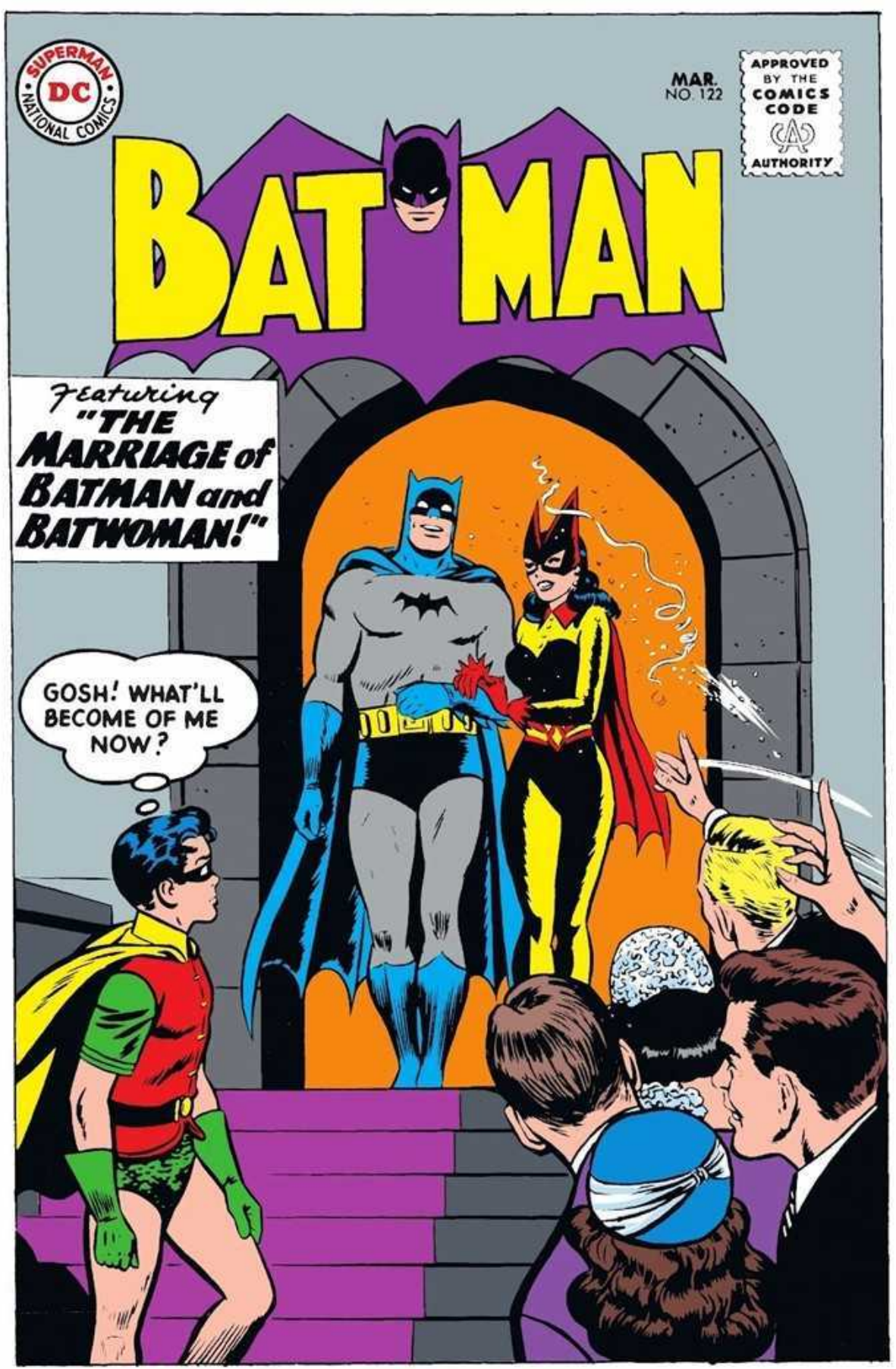
SHORTLY...
THAT'S BETTER, ISN'T IT, MOGO?
I WANT TO KNOW WHO RIGGED THOSE SPECIAL PLATFORMS!
WHY, MR. HARRIS ALWAYS RIGS THEM HIMSELF-- TO MAKE SURE THEY'RE STRONG ENOUGH FOR MOGO!
AS THE BATMAN FINISHES HIS QUESTIONING...
YES, I SAW MR. HARRIS CONFERRING WITH STRANGERS RECENTLY-- BUT I DON'T KNOW WHO THEY WERE!
WE'LL TRY TO FIND OUT! IN THE MEANTIME, YOU TREAT MOGO WELL, RODER!
BUT AS BATMAN DRIVES AWAY, POWERFUL EMOTIONS SEIZE THE MIGHTY APE...
...WHICH DRIVE HIM TO ESCAPE...
AND AS NIGHT FALLS, MOGO FOLLOWS HIS NEW FRIEND, BATMAN!
RODER'S INFORMATION SEEMS TO CLINCH THE CASE AGAINST HARRIS, BATMAN!
SEEMS TO, YES---BUT THERE'S ONE THING WRONG WITH THAT!
4

SOON, IN THE BAT-CAVE HIDDEN UNDER THE MANSION OF SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE, BATMAN'S OTHER IDENTITY...
IF ALL HARRIS HAD TO DO WAS ORDER MOGO TO GO BERSERK, WHY SHOULD HE USE THE ELECTRIC WIRE?
BATMAN, LOOK! LOOK!
MOGO! HE BROKE OUT AND FOLLOWED YOU, BECAUSE YOU BEFRIENDED HIM! I DIDN'T THINK WE COULD BE TRAILED HERE!
NO ORDINARY APE COULD--BUT MOGO IS SUPER-INTELLIGENT!
AND WHEN BRUCE WAYNE'S BUTLER, ALFRED, ENTERS...
IS THIS BLOOMING MONKEY GOING TO LIVE WITH IS?
ONLY TEMPORARILY, ALFRED! YOU KEEP HIM AMUSED, WHILE ROBIN AND I DO A LITTLE RESEARCH!
AFTER A SEARCH THROUGH THEIR VAST CRIME-FILE...
NEITHER HARRIS NOR RODER HAS ANY CRIMINAL RECORD, BUT ONE OF THEM RIGGED THAT SHOCK-DEVICE!
AND SINCE HARRIS WOULDN'T NEED SUCH A DEVICE, IT COULD BE RODER WHO---
MR. BRUCE! HELP!
HE PUT ON ONE OF YOUR HOODS AND MASKS-- AND NOW HE WANTS A CAPE!
ALL APES ARE BORN IMITATORS! IF HE WANTS TO LOOK LIKE ME, LET HIM, ALFRED!
YOU CAN'T LEAVE THAT APE WITH ME IF YOU GO OUT! I'LL--I'LL RESIGN FIRST!
WE'LL TAKE MOGO WITH US, ALFRED! I'M AFRAID HE'D FOLLOW ME, ANYWAY!
5

MOGO, IN THAT COSTUME YOU'RE A REAL BAT-APE!
WE'RE GOING TO WATCH RODER-- IF HE WAS TIED IN WITH THE THIEVES, HE'S BOUND TO CONTACT THEM FOR HIS SHARE OF THE LOOT!
AND A STRANGE, NEW DYNAMIC TRIO KEEPS WATCHFUL VIGIL, UNTIL...
RODER'S GOING NOW, BATMAN-- TOWARDS GOTHAM CITY!
WE'LL TRAIL HIM-- BUT HE COULD BE MERELY GOING TO REPORT MOGO'S ESCAPE!
BUT THE TRAIL LEADS TO...
THAT WAREHOUSE! RODER WENT INTO IT, AND THERE'S A LIGHT UP THERE!
WE'LL GO UP ON THE ROOF OF THE OTHER WARE-HOUSE AND SEE WHAT WE CAN!
THERE'S RODER, TALKING TO SOMEONE! IF WE COULD ONLY GET CLOSER AND LISTEN--- BUT THERE'S NOTHING TO HOOK OUR ROPES ON!
HM, MAYBE THERE IS A WAY TO GET ACROSS---
THAT'S IT, MOGO-- LIFT THE FLAGPOLE OUT OF ITS SOCKET! THEN LOWER IT SO I CAN GRAB THE OTHER END!
SECONDS LATER, AT BATMAN'S COMMAND...
RODER'S TALKING TO THE VANNING BROTHERS-- AND THEY'RE SPLITTING A BIG SUM OF MONEY!

SUDDENLY, AS ONE OF THE THIEVES TURNS...
SOMEBODY'S OUT THERE! IT'S...IT'S BATMAN! BUT HOW--?
HE'S SEEN US! SHOOT!
LIFT UP, MOGO! UP!
AS THE MIGHTY APE INSTANTLY OBEYS...
JUST IN TIME---GOOD WORK, MOGO!
BANG! BANG!
MOMENTS LATER...
THEY'RE ESCAPING, AND WE CAN'T GET ACROSS TO FOLLOW!
MAYBE WE CAN, WITH OUR NEW PARTNER'S HELP!
QUICKLY, THE GREAT BAT-APE OBEYS COMMANDS...
AND ONCE HE TAKES OUR ROPES ACROSS, WE CAN SWING ACROSS FAST!
THAT'S IT, MOGO--VAULT ACROSS!
THEN, HIGH ABOVE GOTHAM CITY, A STRANGE PURSUIT ENSUES...
I DON'T SEE THEM--HOW DO WE KNOW THEY WENT THIS WAY?
MOGO IS FOLLOWING THEM BY SCENT, AS ONLY AN ANIMAL CAN DO!
UNTIL FINALLY...
WE CAN'T GO ANY FURTHER--- AND THERE THEY COME!
ROBIN---MOGO---LOOK OUT! GET BEHIND THAT BIG GLOBE!
7


TRY TO TAKE US, BATMAN--!
THEY'RE ARMED, AND I DON'T WANT TO RISK MOGO---
WITH A SUDDEN INSPIRATION...
SEE, MOGO? PUSH BUT NOT TOO HARD-- JUST ROLL THE BIG GLOBE!
THIS IS MADE OF METAL AND WILL WARD OFF THEIR BULLETS!
KEEP ROLLING IT SLOWLY, MOGO! ROBIN, YOU AND I ARE GOING TO THE TOP OF THE WORLD!
BANG BANG
PING PING
AND SHORTLY...
WE'RE BEING CORNERED--
SUDDENLY...
HOLD IT, MOGO! JUMP THEM, ROBIN!
RIGHT WITH YOU!
FAST-FLYING FISTS MAKE SHORT WORK OF THE PANICKY CROOKS...
THAT'S RIGHT, MOGO--- PUT THE GLOBE BACK IN PLACE! YOU'VE CLEARED YOUR MASTER!
I---I MIGHT AS WELL CONFESS! I PLANNED IT WITH THE VANNINGS, AND ONE OF THEM MADE THAT REMARK TO INCRIMINATE HARRIS!
LATER, WHEN HARRIS HAS BEEN FREED...
I'M SO GRATEFUL TO MOGO FOR WHAT HE DID FOR ME, I'M TAKING HIM BACK TO AFRICA TO SET HIM FREE!
GOOD OLD MOGO! WE'LL NEVER FORGET WHEN YOU WERE THE BAT-APE!
THE END.
8


SUPERMAN
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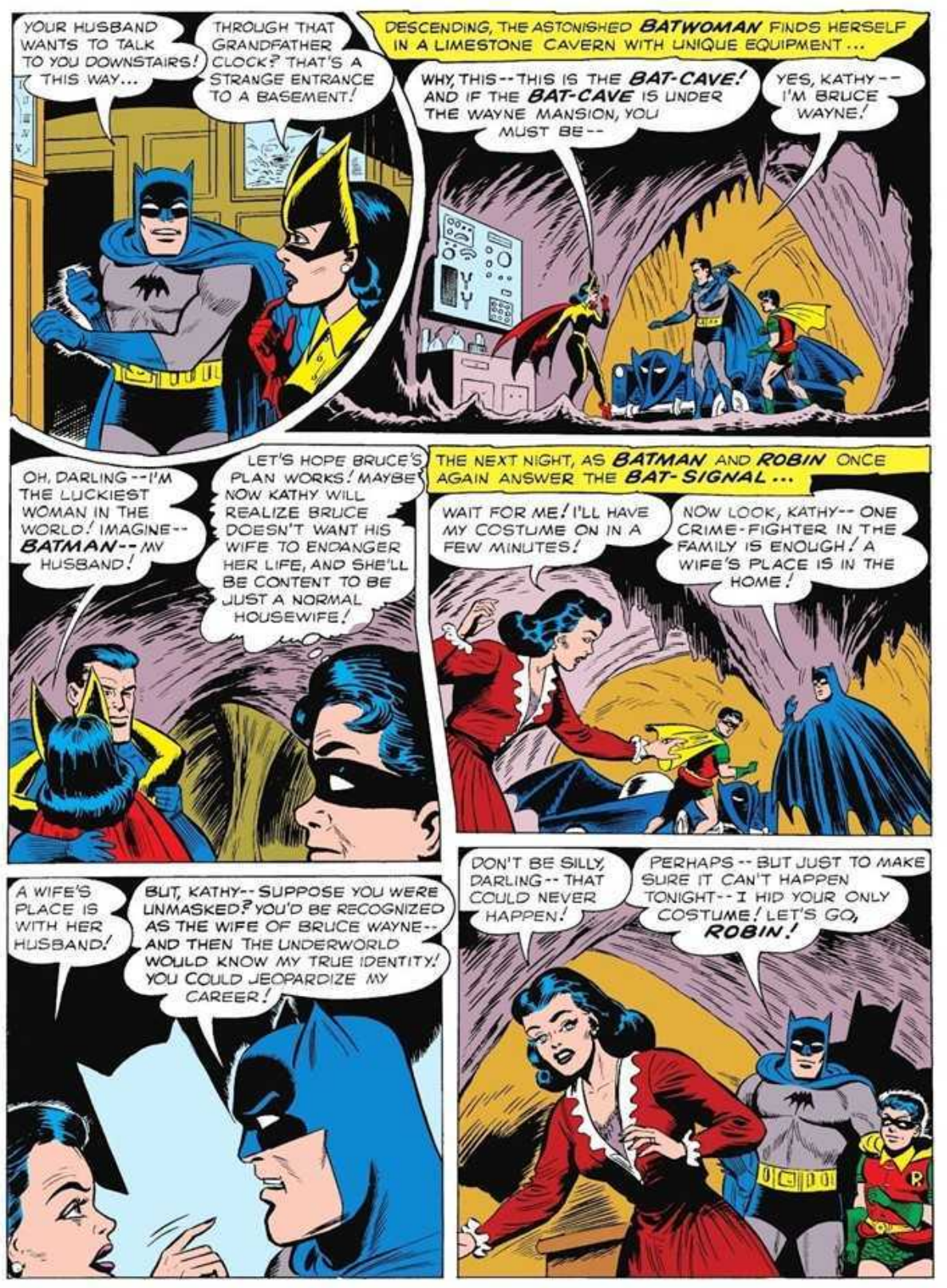
NO. 122
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
BAT MAN
Featuring "THE MARRIAGE of BATMAN and BATWOMAN!"
GOSH! WHAT'LL BECOME OF ME NOW?

BATMAN
WITH ROBIN THE BOY WONDER
ALTHOUGH HIS CAREER AS CRIME-FIGHTER IS SOMETIMES A LONELY ONE, UP TILL NOW, BATMAN HAS NEVER ALLOWED HIMSELF TO THINK OF MARRIAGE--FOR HE KNEW THAT MARRIAGE WOULD NOT ONLY MEAN ENDANGERING HIS WIFE, BUT WOULD JEOPARDIZE HIS SECRET IDENTITY AS WELL! BUT, SUDDENLY IT HAPPENS-- BATMAN DOES MARRY--AND TO ANOTHER COSTUMED CRIME-FIGHTER-- THE GLAMOROUS AND LOVELY BATWOMAN! HOW THIS COMES ABOUT IS REVEALED IN THE SURPRISING STORY OF...
The MARRIAGE of BATMAN AND BATWOMAN
NO, DARLING, A WIFE'S PLACE IS WITH HER HUSBAND!
BATWOMAN! I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU A WIFE'S PLACE IS IN THE HOME!
IN THE WAYNE MANSION, ONE NIGHT, DICK (ROBIN) GRAYSON WATCHES HIS GUARDIAN, BRUCE WAYNE, DRESS IN SOMETHING OTHER THAN HIS BATMAN COSTUME...
A TUXEDO? WHAT'S THE OCCASION?
I'VE GOT A DATE WITH BEAUTIFUL KATHY KANE!
KATHY? BUT YOU ALWAYS SAID SHE ANNOYS YOU BY INTERFERING IN OUR CASES AS BATWOMAN!
TRUE! BUT KATHY'S A LOVELY GIRL--AND A LOVELY GIRL CAN BE FORGIVEN ALMOST ANYTHING! I HOPE SHE LIKES THIS CORSAGE...

AFTER BRUCE LEAVES...
HMM-MM! BRUCE CERTAINLY IS FOND OF KATHY! GOSH--WHAT IF HE SHOULD FALL IN LOVE AND MARRY HER? BOY, WOULD THAT BREAK UP OUR PARTNERSHIP?
TICK TOCK TICK
IMAGINE--BRUCE MARRIED TO KATHY--BATMAN MARRIED TO BATWOMAN! BUT IT COULDN'T HAPPEN... OR COULD IT?....ZZZZZ...
TICK TOCK TICK TOCK
TIME PASSES--AND THEN...
DICK--WAKE UP! WE DID IT! KATHY AND I GOT MARRIED!
I FINALLY MADE BRUCE REALIZE HOW LONELY A BACHELOR'S LIFE IS--AND HE PROPOSED!
Y-YOU'RE M-MARRIED--REALLY MARRIED?
YES, DICK--AND I WANT YOU TO KNOW I'LL BE LIKE A MOTHER TO YOU!
LATER, AS KATHY HAPPILY GOES UPSTAIRS TO INSPECT HER NEW HOME...
DID YOU TELL HER, YOU'RE BATMAN?
NOT YET! I'M SAVING THAT LITTLE SURPRISE FOR AWHILE! I WANT HER TO GET USED TO THE IDEA OF BEING MRS. WAYNE BEFORE I TELL HER SHE'S MRS. BATMAN, TOO!
THAT NIGHT, AS THEY DINE, BRUCE SEES A FAMILIAR SIGNAL...
THE BAT-SIGNAL! HEADQUARTERS IS PAGING ME! HOW CAN I GET AWAY FOR AWHILE WITHOUT MAKING KATHY SUSPICIOUS? HMM-MM! THE GRAPEFRUIT GIVES ME AN IDEA...
SPOONING THE GRAPEFRUIT, BRUCE SUDDENLY CRIES OUT AND BLINKS FURIOUSLY...
OH, YOU POOR DARLING--DID YOU GET SOME JUICE IN YOUR EYE?
KATHY DOESN'T KNOW BRUCE IS ONLY PRETENDING--SO HE CAN WINK AT ME IN CODE--TELLING ME TO DIAL ONE OF OUR OWN PHONE NUMBERS!

MOMENTS AFTER DICK HAS CALLED FROM ANOTHER ROOM...
I'M SORRY, HONEY--THAT WAS MY BUSINESS PARTNER! I'VE GOT TO MEET HIM RIGHT AWAY! SOMETHING URGENT HAS COME UP!
AND I'M NOT LYING, SINCE DICK IS MY PARTNER--AND OUR BUSINESS IS CRIME-FIGHTING!
LEFT ALONE, KATHY BECOMES RESTLESS...
I'M SO BORED! BRUCE IS OUT--AND DICK JUST LEFT, SAYING HE HAD TO MEET A FRIEND! MAYBE I OUGHT TO GO OUT MYSELF! HMM! THE BAT-SIGNAL CALLING BATMAN! MAYBE I WILL GO!
LUCKILY, I PACKED MY COSTUME! I'LL HELP BATMAN-- AND GET BACK BEFORE BRUCE RETURNS!
AND SO IT IS THAT TWO VEHICLES SPEED TO THE SCENE OF A CRIME BEAMED ON A POLICE ALARM...
WOULDN'T BRUCE BE SURPRISED TO KNOW HE'S MARRIED TO THE BATWOMAN!
WOULDN'T KATHY BE SURPRISED TO KNOW SHE'S MARRIED TO THE BATMAN!
SOON AFTER, AT AN AIRPORT TERMINAL WHERE BANDITS HAVE JUST LOOTED ITS SAFE OF VALUABLES...
ULP! BATMAN AND ROBIN! THEY'VE GOT US BLOCKED OFF!
QUICK--UP THAT RAMP TO THE SKYLIGHT!
AS THE THIEVES RACE UP THE DISPLAY SYMBOLIZING THE AIRLINE'S GLOBE-CIRCLING ROUTES, THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS CLOSE IN...
SPLIT UP! BATMAN CAN'T CHASE US ALL IF WE DO THAT!
MAYBE I CAN--WITH AN ASSIST FROM MY SILKEN ROPE!

LASSOING THE NOSE OF THE PLANE, BATMAN SWINGS OUT...
ONE...
...AND ONE MAKE TWO! ONLY ONE MORE TO GO!
BUT BEFORE THE HOODLUM CAN FIRE, A THIRD CAPED FIGURE SWOOPS DOWN THROUGH THE SKYLIGHT!
SURPRISED, BATMAN? DON'T BE! I HEARD THE POLICE CALL ON SHORT-WAVE--JUST AS YOU DID!
BLAM!
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TAKE ME, BATMAN--!
BATMAN--HE'S GOT A GUN! LOOK OUT!
KATHY! SHE JUST COULDN'T RESIST COMING OUT AS BATWOMAN!
WITH THE GANG TURNED OVER TO THE POLICE, THE BATWOMAN HURRIES AWAY...
IN A BIG RUSH, ISN'T SHE? SHE'S TRYING TO GET BACK HOME BEFORE I RETURN AS BRUCE WAYNE! ROBIN, WE'LL TAKE A SHORT-CUT! I'VE GOT A LITTLE SURPRISE PLANNED FOR MY WIFE!
SOON AFTER, AS THE BATWOMAN HURRIES INTO THE WAYNE MANSION...
BATMAN!?? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I JUST HAD A LITTLE CHAT WITH YOUR HUSBAND! I TOLD HIM EVERYTHING!


YOUR HUSBAND WANTS TO TALK TO YOU DOWNSTAIRS! THIS WAY...
THROUGH THAT GRANDFATHER CLOCK? THAT'S A STRANGE ENTRANCE TO A BASEMENT!
DESCENDING, THE ASTONISHED BATWOMAN FINDS HERSELF IN A LIMESTONE CAVERN WITH UNIQUE EQUIPMENT...
WHY, THIS -- THIS IS THE BAT-CAVE! AND IF THE BAT-CAVE IS UNDER THE WAYNE MANSION, YOU MUST BE --
YES, KATHY -- I'M BRUCE WAYNE!
OH, DARLING -- I'M THE LUCKIEST WOMAN IN THE WORLD! IMAGINE -- BATMAN -- MY HUSBAND!
LET'S HOPE BRUCE'S PLAN WORKS! MAYBE NOW KATHY WILL REALIZE BRUCE DOESN'T WANT HIS WIFE TO ENDANGER HER LIFE, AND SHE'LL BE CONTENT TO BE JUST A NORMAL HOUSEWIFE!
THE NEXT NIGHT, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN ONCE AGAIN ANSWER THE BAT-SIGNAL...
WAIT FOR ME! I'LL HAVE MY COSTUME ON IN A FEW MINUTES!
NOW LOOK, KATHY -- ONE CRIME-FIGHTER IN THE FAMILY IS ENOUGH! A WIFE'S PLACE IS IN THE HOME!
A WIFE'S PLACE IS WITH HER HUSBAND!
BUT, KATHY -- SUPPOSE YOU WERE UNMASKED? YOU'D BE RECOGNIZED AS THE WIFE OF BRUCE WAYNE -- AND THEN THE UNDERWORLD WOULD KNOW MY TRUE IDENTITY! YOU COULD JEOPARDIZE MY CAREER!
DON'T BE SILLY, DARLING -- THAT COULD NEVER HAPPEN!
PERHAPS -- BUT JUST TO MAKE SURE IT CAN'T HAPPEN TONIGHT -- I HID YOUR ONLY COSTUME! LET'S GO, ROBIN!

ON A MOVIE SET, A REAL CRIME IS UNDERWAY...
BOSS, YOU SURE WE CAN GRAB SILVER HERE?
SURE! ALL STUDIOS HAVE A CHEMICAL PROCESS FOR RECOVERING THE SILVER FROM THE SILVER NITRATE COATING OF DISCARDED FILMS! THE SILVER IS STORED IN THE STUDIO SAFE!
AND YOU'RE GOING TO BE STORED IN A PRISON CELL!
BATMAN AND ROBIN! QUICK-- WE'LL CUT ACROSS THAT PIRATE SHIP--!
BUT THE ACROBATMAN AND ROBIN MAKE A DARING DIVE TO THE SHIP'S GANGPLANK...
THIS IS ONE PIRATE SHIP PLANK...
TWAANG
...THAT ISN'T WALKED!
WHIPPING UP CUTLASSES FROM THE DECK, THE BANDITS TRY TO BEAT OFF THE ATTACK...
SHIVER MY TIMBERS! I ALMOST EXPECT TO SEE BLACKBEARD POPPING IN ANY MINUTE!

NOT BLACKBEARD BUT BATWOMAN--IN ONE OF BATMAN'S SPARE COSTUMES! I DID A QUICK SEWING JOB TO MAKE IT FIT--ALTHOUGH THE COWL IS STILL A BIT TOO LOOSE FOR ME!
STAY OUT OF THIS! ROBIN AND I CAN HANDLE THIS!
DON'T BE SILLY, DARLING--WHY SHOULDN'T I HELP AS LONG AS I'M HERE?
BUT THE LEADER HAS SLIPPED AWAY TO THE WIND MACHINE, AND...
THIS'LL KEEP THEM BUSY WHILE I MAKE MY GETAWAY!
OHH--THAT WIND--IT'S BLOWING MY COWL AWAY!
WHOOSHHH!
AND BEFORE SHE CAN PREVENT IT, BATWOMAN IS UNMASKED...
KATHY KANE! I READ ABOUT HER IN THE NEWSPAPERS, BEING MARRIED TO BRUCE WAYNE!
AND SHE CALLED BATMAN, "DARLING"! THAT MEANS BATMAN IS BRUCE WAYNE!
OH, DARLING--I'M SORRY! SOB
KATHY, DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'VE DONE? YOU'VE WRECKED BATMAN'S CAREER!
HE'S FINISHED, KATHY--AND IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT BECAUSE YOU WOULDN'T LISTEN! YOU DID IT--YOU DID IT...
STOP IT, ROBIN! ACCUSATIONS CAN'T HELP NOW! STOP IT! DO YOU HEAR ME?

BATMAN

With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

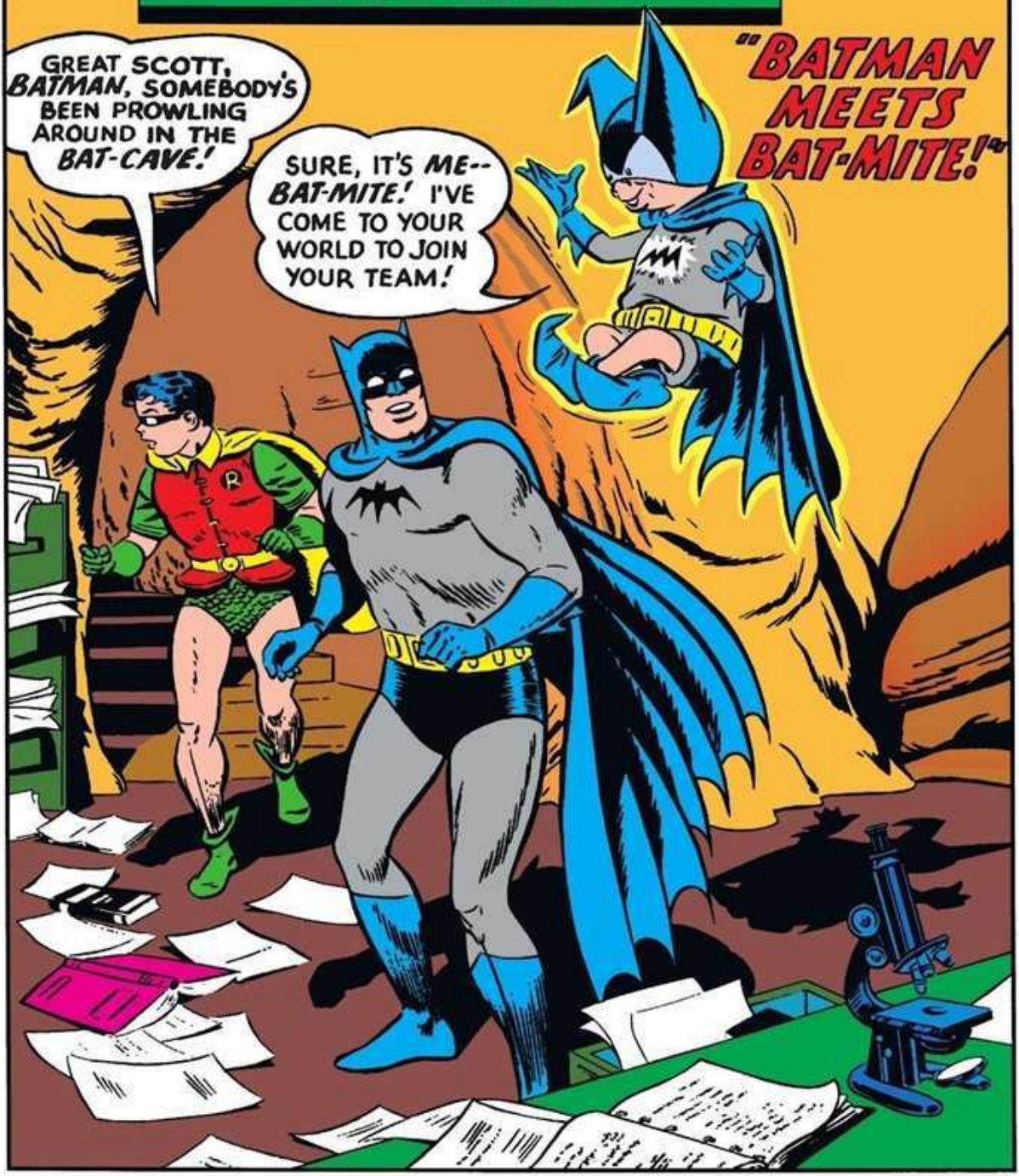
SUPERMAN • DC • NATIONAL COMICS

MAY NO. 267

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

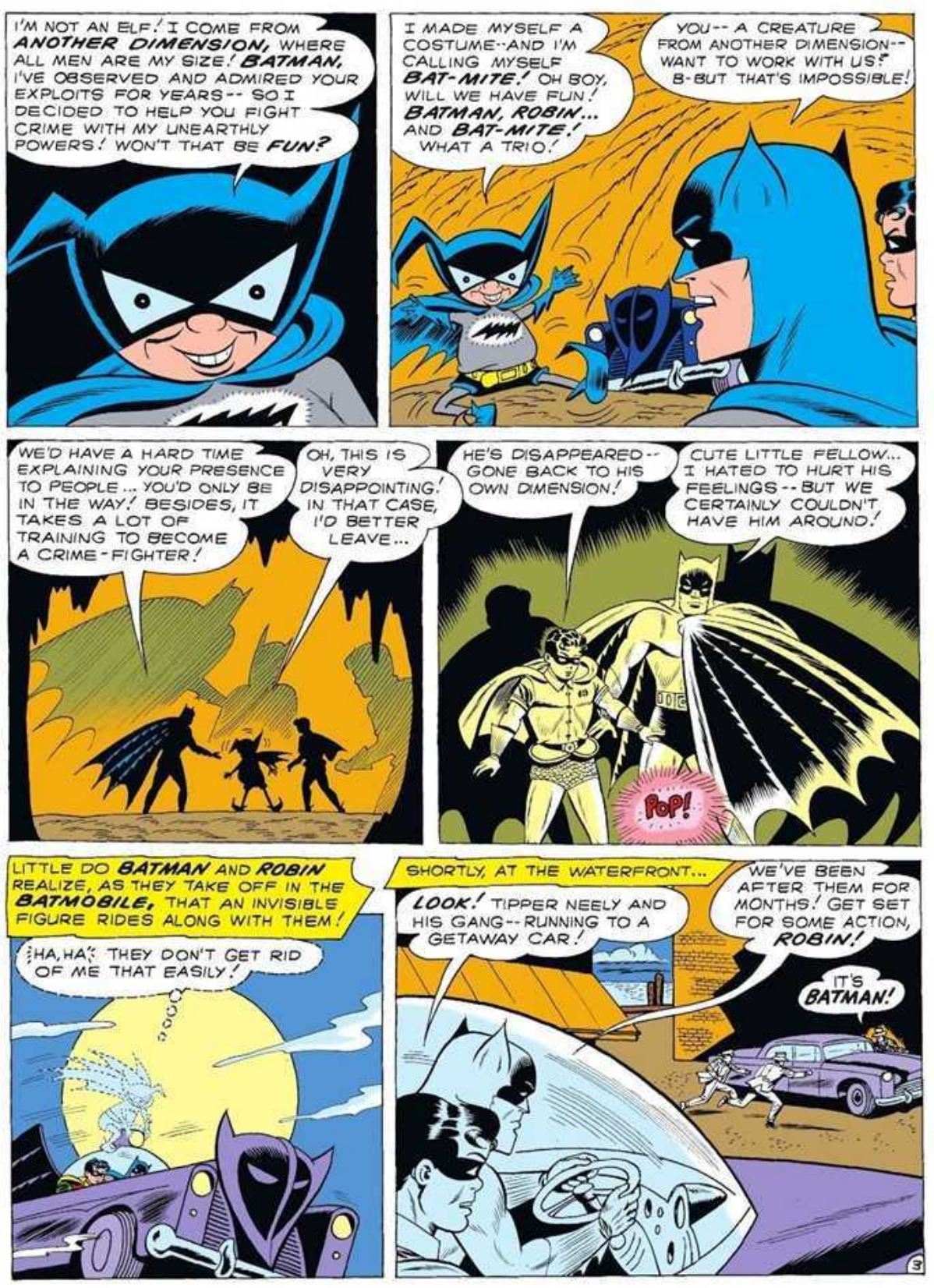
Detective COMICS

"BATMAN MEETS BAT-MITE!"



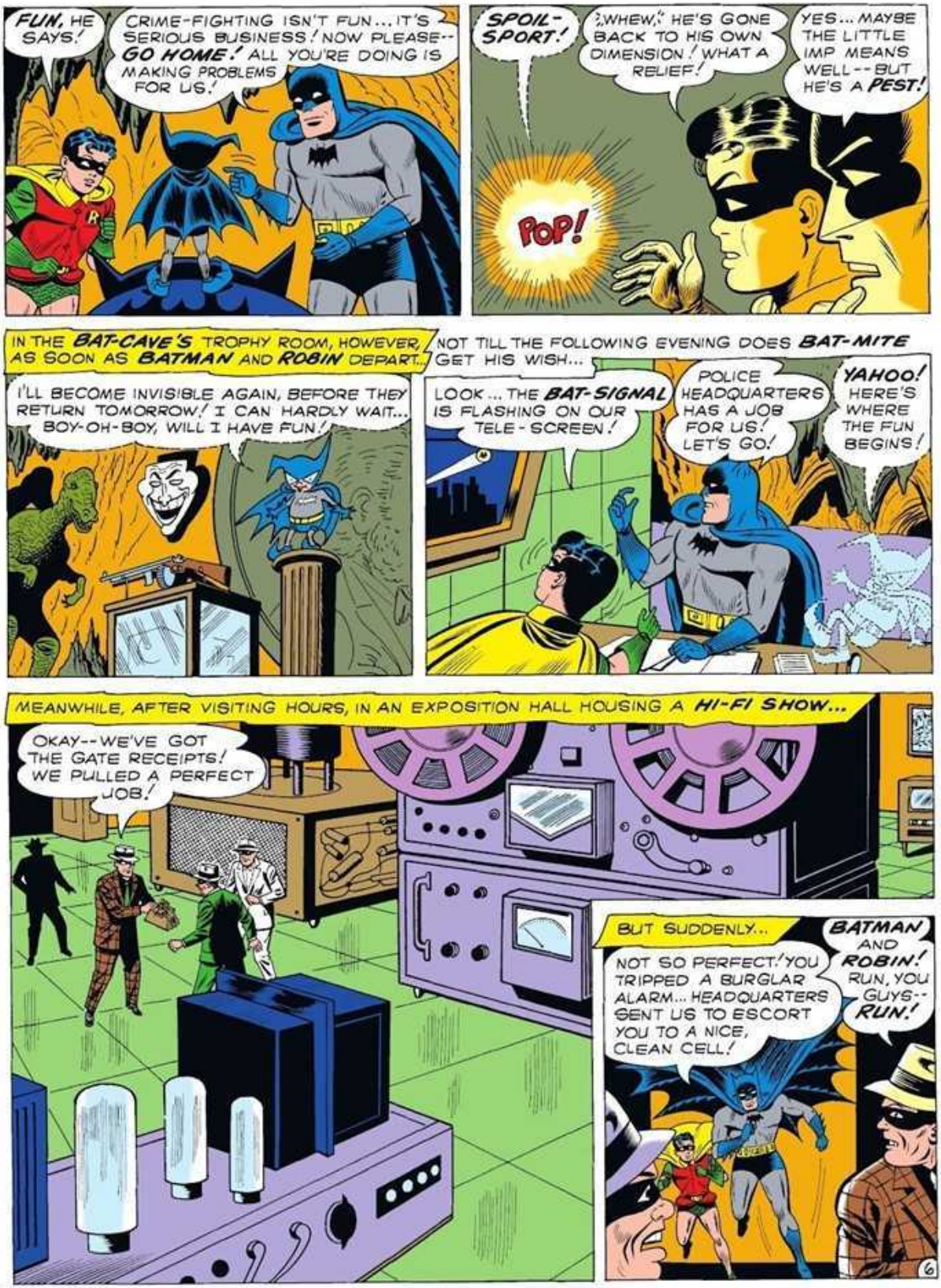
BATMAN
With ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
IS HE AN ELF?... A GREMLIN?... AN IMP OR A PIXIE? WHY DOES HE CONSTANTLY HARASS BATMAN AND ROBIN IN THEIR EFFORTS TO FIGHT CRIME? YOU'LL LEARN THE STARTLING ANSWERS WHEN YOU SEE HOW...
BATMAN MEETS BAT-MITE
THOSE CROOKS ARE GIVING BATMAN QUITE A BATTLE, EH, ROBIN?
YES, BAT-MITE... AND IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!
BOB KANE
1

ONE NIGHT, IN THE HOME OF WEALTHY SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON ...
LET'S GO, DICK ... TIME FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN TO START THEIR PATROL!
RIGHT, BRUCE!
BUT, AS THE TWO DON THEIR ACTION GARB IN THE SECRET SUBTERRANEAN BAT-CAVE ...
STRANGE ... WHAT'S MY UTILITY BELT DOING ON THE FLOOR? I'M SURE I HUNG IT IN THE CLOSET!
AND MY BELT-RADIO ... WHO OPENED IT? I ALWAYS MAKE SURE IT'S CLOSED, TO KEEP DUST OUT!
LOOK, ROBIN--EVEN THE EQUIPMENT ON OUR LAB TABLE HAS BEEN DISTURBED!
;GULP! COULD THERE HAVE BEEN A STRANGER DOWN HERE, IN THE BAT-CAVE?
WHAT--? A VOICE ... BUT I CAN'T SEE ANYONE!
DEAR ME--I'M SORRY! I WAS EXAMINING YOUR EQUIPMENT, AND I'M AFRAID I GOT CARELESS!
IN THAT CASE, I'D BETTER MAKE MYSELF VISIBLE!
BATMAN--LOOK! AM I DREAMING--OR DO YOU SEE IT, TOO?
I--I'M AFRAID I DO, ROBIN!
POP!
IT'S AN ELF ... AN ELF DRESSED IN A CRAZY-LOOKING BATMAN COSTUME!
HI!
2


I'M NOT AN ELF! I COME FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION, WHERE ALL MEN ARE MY SIZE! BATMAN, I'VE OBSERVED AND ADMIRED YOUR EXPLOITS FOR YEARS -- SO I DECIDED TO HELP YOU FIGHT CRIME WITH MY UNEARTHLY POWERS! WON'T THAT BE FUN?
I MADE MYSELF A COSTUME--AND I'M CALLING MYSELF BAT-MITE! OH BOY, WILL WE HAVE FUN! BATMAN, ROBIN... AND BAT-MITE! WHAT A TRIO!
YOU-- A CREATURE FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION-- WANT TO WORK WITH US? B-BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
WE'D HAVE A HARD TIME EXPLAINING YOUR PRESENCE TO PEOPLE ... YOU'D ONLY BE IN THE WAY! BESIDES, IT TAKES A LOT OF TRAINING TO BECOME A CRIME-FIGHTER!
OH, THIS IS VERY DISAPPOINTING! IN THAT CASE, I'D BETTER LEAVE...
HE'S DISAPPEARED-- GONE BACK TO HIS OWN DIMENSION!
CUTE LITTLE FELLOW... I HATED TO HURT HIS FEELINGS -- BUT WE CERTAINLY COULDN'T HAVE HIM AROUND!
POP!
LITTLE DO BATMAN AND ROBIN REALIZE, AS THEY TAKE OFF IN THE BATMOBILE, THAT AN INVISIBLE FIGURE RIDES ALONG WITH THEM!
HA, HA! THEY DON'T GET RID OF ME THAT EASILY!
SHORTLY, AT THE WATERFRONT...
LOOK! TIPPER NEELY AND HIS GANG-- RUNNING TO A GETAWAY CAR!
WE'VE BEEN AFTER THEM FOR MONTHS! GET SET FOR SOME ACTION, ROBIN!
IT'S BATMAN!

ABRUPTLY...
HE'S CUT US OFF.
SCREECH!
AND AS THE CRIMINALS ATTEMPT A GETAWAY ON FOOT...
THEY'RE CLOSING IN FAST. IT'S NO USE... WE'RE FINISHED.
BUT AT THAT MOMENT...
YOW! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE BRIDGE?
BATMAN... TH-THE BRIDGE HAS BECOME AS HILLY AS A ROLLER COASTER.
TO THE QUICK-THINKING BATMAN, THERE IS ONLY ONE POSSIBLE ANSWER...
BAT-MITE! REMEMBER HE SAID HE HAS STRANGE POWERS? HE'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS. BUT-- BUT WHY?
DOWN THE STEEP DIP SLIDE THE CRIME-FIGHTERS, FULL FORCE INTO THE BEWILDERED THUGS...
OOF!
UGH!
MEASURING THE GANG CHIEF FOR A BLOW, BATMAN SWINGS...
4

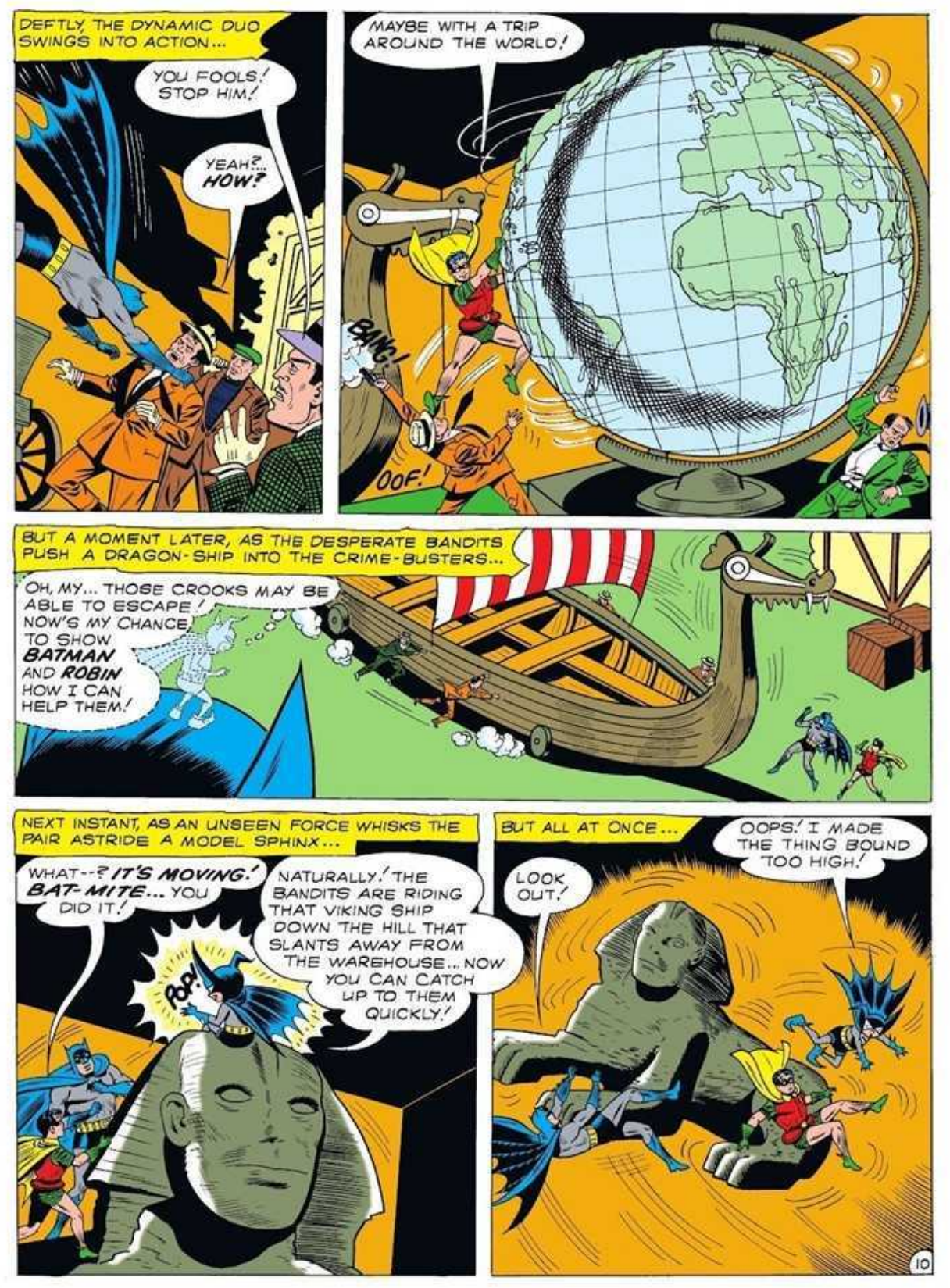
...ONLY TO COMPLETE HIS PUNCH IN MID-AIR!
THE BRIDGE SNAPPED US UPWARD, LIKE A GIANT RUBBER BAND!
AND AS THE PAIR RETURNS TO THE RUBBERY STRUCTURE...
MAYBE I CAN MAKE USE OF THIS INSANE SITUATION TO END THE FIGHT FAST!
LIKE A TENNIS BALL, BATMAN BOUNCES FROM HILL TO HILL -- HIS JUTTING FIST FINDING TARGETS...
I FEEL LIKE I'M RIDING ...
... A POGO STICK!
WITH THE CAPTURE OF THE BANDITS, THE BRIDGE RETURNS TO ITS NORMAL STATE, PRESENTING BATMAN WITH STILL ANOTHER PROBLEM...
I DON'T GET IT! WHAT HAPPENED WITH THAT BRIDGE?
OH, OH -- I'D BETTER THINK OF SOMETHING FAST... NOBODY WOULD BELIEVE THE TRUTH!
ER--THAT CHEMICAL PLANT... IT EMPTIES ITS WASTES INTO THE RIVER! THEY--UH--MIGHT HAVE CAUSED A CHEMICAL REACTION WITH THE WATER -- EMITTING A GAS THAT GAVE US HALLUCINATIONS!
YEAH -- I GUESS THE GAS MADE US SEE THINGS!
NOT UNTIL THE CRIME-FIGHTERS ARRIVE HOME DOES BAT-MITE RETURN TO VISIBILITY...
YOU? I OUGHT TO SPANK YOU! WHAT WAS THE IDEA OF THAT STUNT?
GOSH, BATMAN, YOU WENT AFTER THOSE CROOKS SO QUICKLY, I HARDLY GOT TO SEE YOU IN ACTION -- SO I PROLONGED THE FIGHT A LITTLE! I JUST WANTED TO HAVE SOME FUN!
5

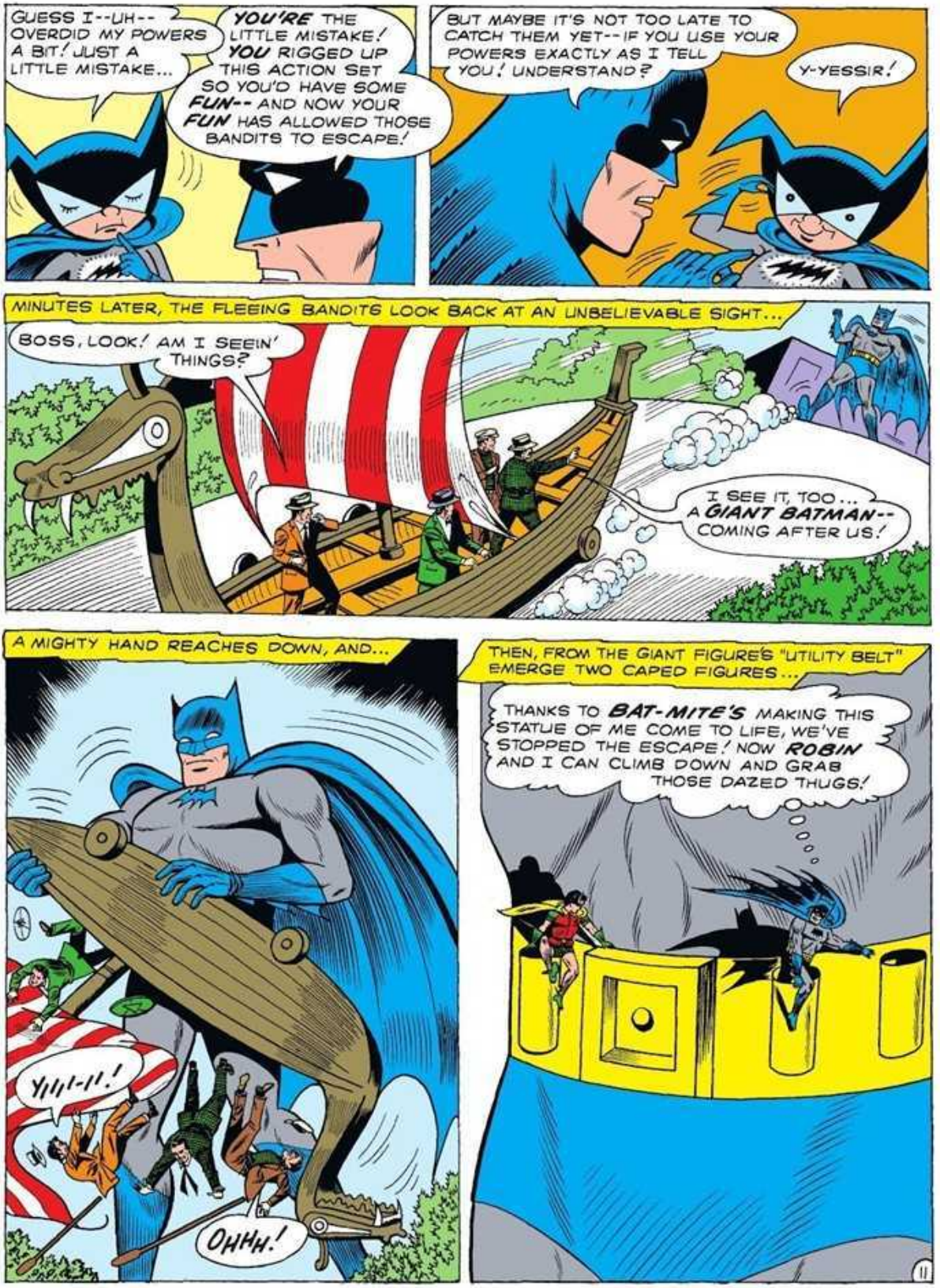

FUN, HE SAYS!
CRIME-FIGHTING ISN'T FUN... IT'S SERIOUS BUSINESS! NOW PLEASE-- GO HOME! ALL YOU'RE DOING IS MAKING PROBLEMS FOR US!
SPOIL-SPORT!
"WHEW," HE'S GONE BACK TO HIS OWN DIMENSION! WHAT A RELIEF!
YES... MAYBE THE LITTLE IMP MEANS WELL--BUT HE'S A PEST!
POP!
IN THE BAT-CAVE'S TROPHY ROOM, HOWEVER, AS SOON AS BATMAN AND ROBIN DEPART...
I'LL BECOME INVISIBLE AGAIN, BEFORE THEY RETURN TOMORROW! I CAN HARDLY WAIT... BOY-OH-BOY, WILL I HAVE FUN!
NOT TILL THE FOLLOWING EVENING DOES BAT-MITE GET HIS WISH...
LOOK... THE BAT-SIGNAL IS FLASHING ON OUR TELE-SCREEN!
POLICE HEADQUARTERS HAS A JOB FOR US! LET'S GO!
YAHOO! HERE'S WHERE THE FUN BEGINS!
MEANWHILE, AFTER VISITING HOURS, IN AN EXPOSITION HALL HOUSING A HI-FI SHOW...
OKAY--WE'VE GOT THE GATE RECEIPTS! WE PULLED A PERFECT JOB!
BUT SUDDENLY...
NOT SO PERFECT! YOU TRIPPED A BURGLAR ALARM... HEADQUARTERS SENT US TO ESCORT YOU TO A NICE, CLEAN CELL!
BATMAN AND ROBIN! RUN, YOU GUYS-- RUN!
6

AS THE BANDITS TRY TO SCRAMBLE OVER THE GIANT MODEL OF AN AMPLIFIER...
YOU ALL RIGHT, ROBIN?
I'M FINE--BUT I'M NOT SO SURE ABOUT THESE FELLOWS!
HOLD IT, BATMAN-- WE KNOW WHEN WE'RE LICKED!
GEE... AND I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO SOME SPECTACULAR ACTION! GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO CREATE SOME!..
ABRUPTLY, A RECORD COMES FLYING OFF A COLOSSAL PHONOGRAPH MODEL, AND...
HUH--?
GREAT SCOTT!
WH-WHERE'D THIS THING COME FROM?
WHO CARES? ALL I KNOW IS IT GOT US AWAY FROM BATMAN AND ROBIN... MAYBE IT'LL EVEN FLY US OUTA HERE!
IT'S BAT-MITE'S WORK AGAIN... THAT LITTLE IMP!
WE'LL WORRY ABOUT HIM LATER! RIGHT NOW, WE MUST THINK OF A WAY TO GET UP AT THOSE CROOKS!
7

CLIMBING TO THE REEL OF A GIGANTIC TAPE RECORDER, BATMAN EMBARKS ON A DARING PLAN...
OKAY--THE RECORD IS COMING THIS WAY... THROW THE SWITCH, ROBIN!
CHECK!
CLICK!
SOON AS I'VE GAINED ENOUGH MOMENTUM...
I JUST LET GO!
AS HE LANDS ATOP THE FLYING RECORD...
BATMAN GOT TO US ANYHOW!
OOF!
WITH THE BATTLE ENDED, THE RECORD LANDS GENTLY...
IT'S CRAZY! WHAT MADE THE RECORD FLY AROUND THAT WAY?
UH... SOMETHING MAY HAVE GONE WRONG WITH THE PHONOGRAPH'S MOTOR... CAUSING IT TO FLIP THE RECORD SO HARD, THE MOMENTUM KEPT IT FLYING!
8

LATER, UPON RETURNING TO THE BAT-CAVE...
LISTEN, YOU LITTLE SCAMP, YOU'VE GOT TO CUT OUT ALL THIS MISCHIEF! YOU HEAR ME?... CUT IT OUT OR I WILL SPANK YOU!
AW, GEE, BATMAN-- WHERE'S YOUR SENSE OF HUMOR?
FURTHERMORE, I ... HMPH-- THERE HE GOES AGAIN!
LET'S HOPE HE STAYS AWAY FOR GOOD! I'M GETTING A LITTLE TIRED OF HIS IDEA OF "FUN"!
POP!
NEXT EVENING...
ROBIN, I JUST GOT A TIP THAT THE YELLOW GLOVES GANG PLANS TO ROB THE SAFE OF THE GOTHAM AUTO COMPANY! I'VE ALREADY WARNED THE MANAGER... HE'S REPLACED THE CASH IN THERE WITH FAKE MONEY!
I SEE... MEANWHILE, WE'LL WAIT THERE IN HIDING TILL AFTER THEY STRIKE -- SO THAT OUR PRESENCE WON'T SCARE THEM OFF!
EXACTLY... AND SINCE THIS EMPTY WAREHOUSE, NEXT DOOR, IS THE SHORTEST ESCAPE ROUTE, THAT'S WHERE WE'LL WAIT FOR THEM!
AN EMPTY WAREHOUSE? NO OBJECTS FOR SPECTACULAR ACTION? I'LL HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT!
THUS, AWHILE LATER, AT THE COMING SCENE OF BATTLE...
THERE ... WITH THESE PROPS BORROWED FROM A MOVIE LOT, I'VE PROVIDED A PERFECT BACKDROP FOR SENSATIONAL BATMAN STUNTS! I CAN HARDLY WAIT FOR THE FUN TO BEGIN!
AND SHORTLY AFTERWARD, AS THE YELLOW GLOVES GANG STARTS ITS GETAWAY...
I THOUGHT THIS PLACE WOULD BE EMPTY! HOW'D ALL THIS STUFF GET HERE?
NEVER MIND THAT! HOW DID BATMAN AND ROBIN GET HERE?
9


DEFTLY, THE DYNAMIC DUO SWINGS INTO ACTION...
YOU FOOLS! STOP HIM!
YEAH?... HOW?
MAYBE WITH A TRIP AROUND THE WORLD!
BANG!
OOF!
BUT A MOMENT LATER, AS THE DESPERATE BANDITS PUSH A DRAGON-SHIP INTO THE CRIME-BUSTERS...
OH, MY... THOSE CROOKS MAY BE ABLE TO ESCAPE! NOW'S MY CHANCE TO SHOW BATMAN AND ROBIN HOW I CAN HELP THEM!
NEXT INSTANT, AS AN UNSEEN FORCE WHISKS THE PAIR ASTRIDE A MODEL SPHINX...
WHAT--? IT'S MOVING! BAT-MITE... YOU DID IT!
BOP!
NATURALLY! THE BANDITS ARE RIDING THAT VIKING SHIP DOWN THE HILL THAT SLANTS AWAY FROM THE WAREHOUSE... NOW YOU CAN CATCH UP TO THEM QUICKLY!
BUT ALL AT ONCE...
LOOK OUT!
OOPS! I MADE THE THING BOUND TOO HIGH!
10


GUESS I--UH-- OVERDID MY POWERS A BIT! JUST A LITTLE MISTAKE...
YOU'RE THE LITTLE MISTAKE! YOU RIGGED UP THIS ACTION SET SO YOU'D HAVE SOME FUN-- AND NOW YOUR FUN HAS ALLOWED THOSE BANDITS TO ESCAPE!
BUT MAYBE IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO CATCH THEM YET--IF YOU USE YOUR POWERS EXACTLY AS I TELL YOU! UNDERSTAND?
Y-YESSIR!
MINUTES LATER, THE FLEEING BANDITS LOOK BACK AT AN UNBELIEVABLE SIGHT...
BOSS, LOOK! AM I SEEIN' THINGS?
I SEE IT, TOO... A GIANT BATMAN-- COMING AFTER US!
A MIGHTY HAND REACHES DOWN, AND...
YIIII-II!
OHHH!
THEN, FROM THE GIANT FIGURE'S "UTILITY BELT" EMERGE TWO CAPED FIGURES...
THANKS TO BAT-MITE'S MAKING THIS STATUE OF ME COME TO LIFE, WE'VE STOPPED THE ESCAPE! NOW ROBIN AND I CAN CLIMB DOWN AND GRAB THOSE DAZED THUGS!
11

BATMAN With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

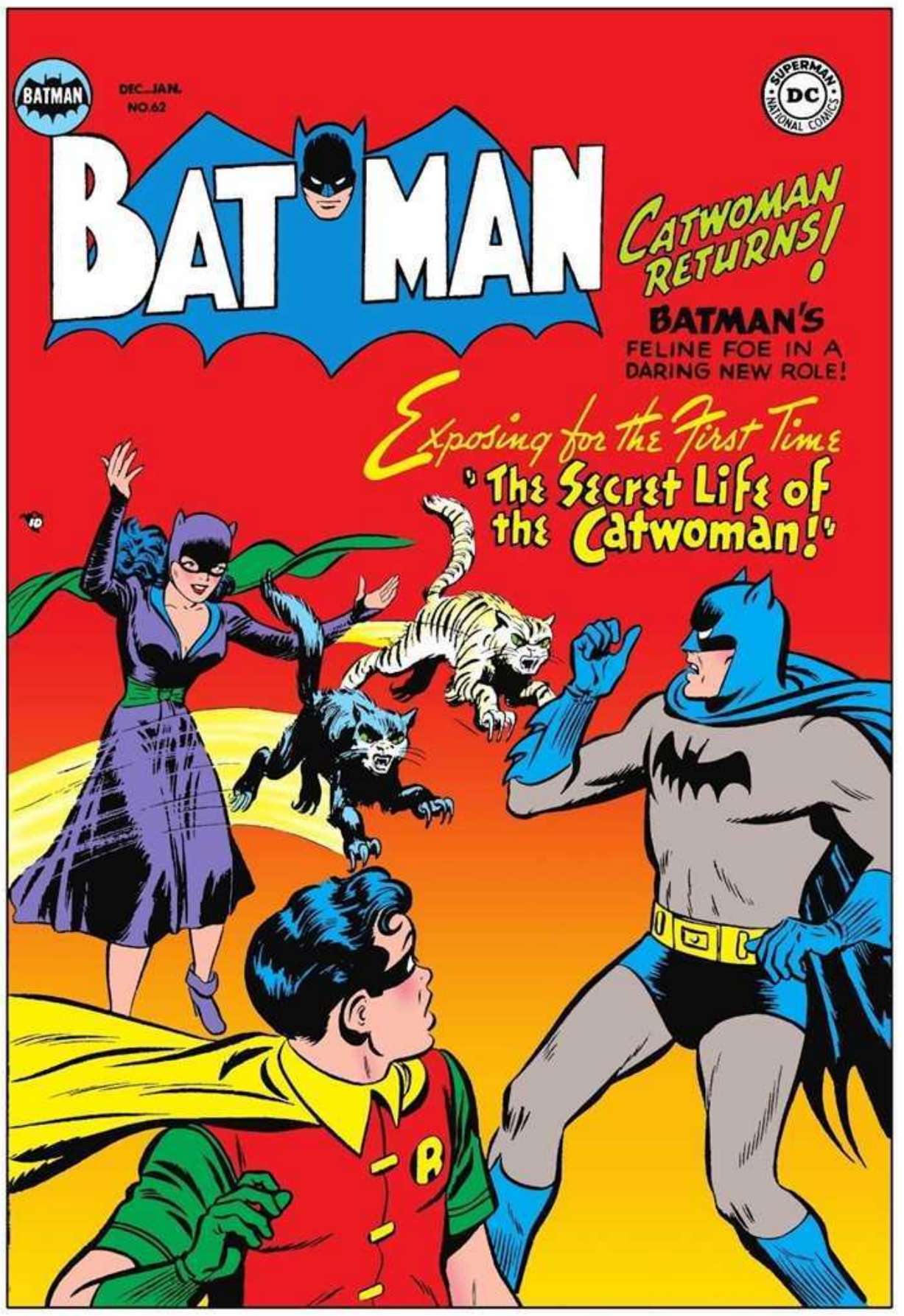
The Villains

Batman has always had an unparalleled rogues gallery. Masters of mayhem like the Joker, the Riddler, Catwoman, the Penguin, and Two-Face have made Gotham City the nastiest burg in the DCU for over 80 years. The decade of the 1950s saw not only old favorites causing mischief, but new villains making trouble for our hero as well.

Some pains never go away. And over the years, the biggest pain in the neck for Batman has been the Joker. Several of the greatest Batman stories ever told have centered around the Clown Prince of Crime. But one tale in particular stands out from the decade of the 1950s. "The Man Behind the Red Hood!" (*Detective Comics* #168) recounts, for the first time, the origin of the Joker. Mr. J, you see, was originally a mere lab worker who decided to don the red hood in order to steal some dough from the Monarch Playing Card Company. Unfortunately, as he swam away from the caper through a pool of chemical waste (because, you know, there's always a lot of chemical waste underneath those pesky playing card companies), his skin was turned chalk white, his lips rouge red, and his hair green. A star was born, and Gotham hasn't been the same since.

Catwoman's origin was also exposed in the 1950s. In "The Secret Life of the Catwoman!" (*Batman* #62), Selina Kyle is busted out of the joint by the mysterious Mr. X to join him on a bank-robbery binge. But when the Princess of Purr gets amnesia after saving Batman's life, she spills the beans about her pre-crime career. Coffee, tea, or a saucer of milk, anyone? The 1950s also brought a slew of newcomers. Among them were Deadshot (who was not quite the menace he would become in the 1970s), Killer Moth (who would eventually become Charaxes), the Firefly, the Terrible Trio, Dr. Double X, and the Calendar Man. But one new villain stood out from the pack. He was called Mr. Zero (*Batman* #121), though he is better known now by his subsequent name, Mr. Freeze. A much more cheerful guy than he would become in later decades, Mr. Zero used an ice cream truck for a getaway car and seemed to only concern himself with robbing jewelry stores and masquerade balls, as opposed to the much darker, more personal rampages he would go on in later decades.

ALL READY? LET'S GO!
THERE'S WORK FOR
BATMAN
AND ROBIN!


BATMAN
DEC.-JAN.
NO.62
SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
BATMAN
CATWOMAN RETURNS!
BATMAN'S
FELINE FOE IN A
DARING NEW ROLE!
Exposing for the First Time
"The Secret Life of the Catwoman!"
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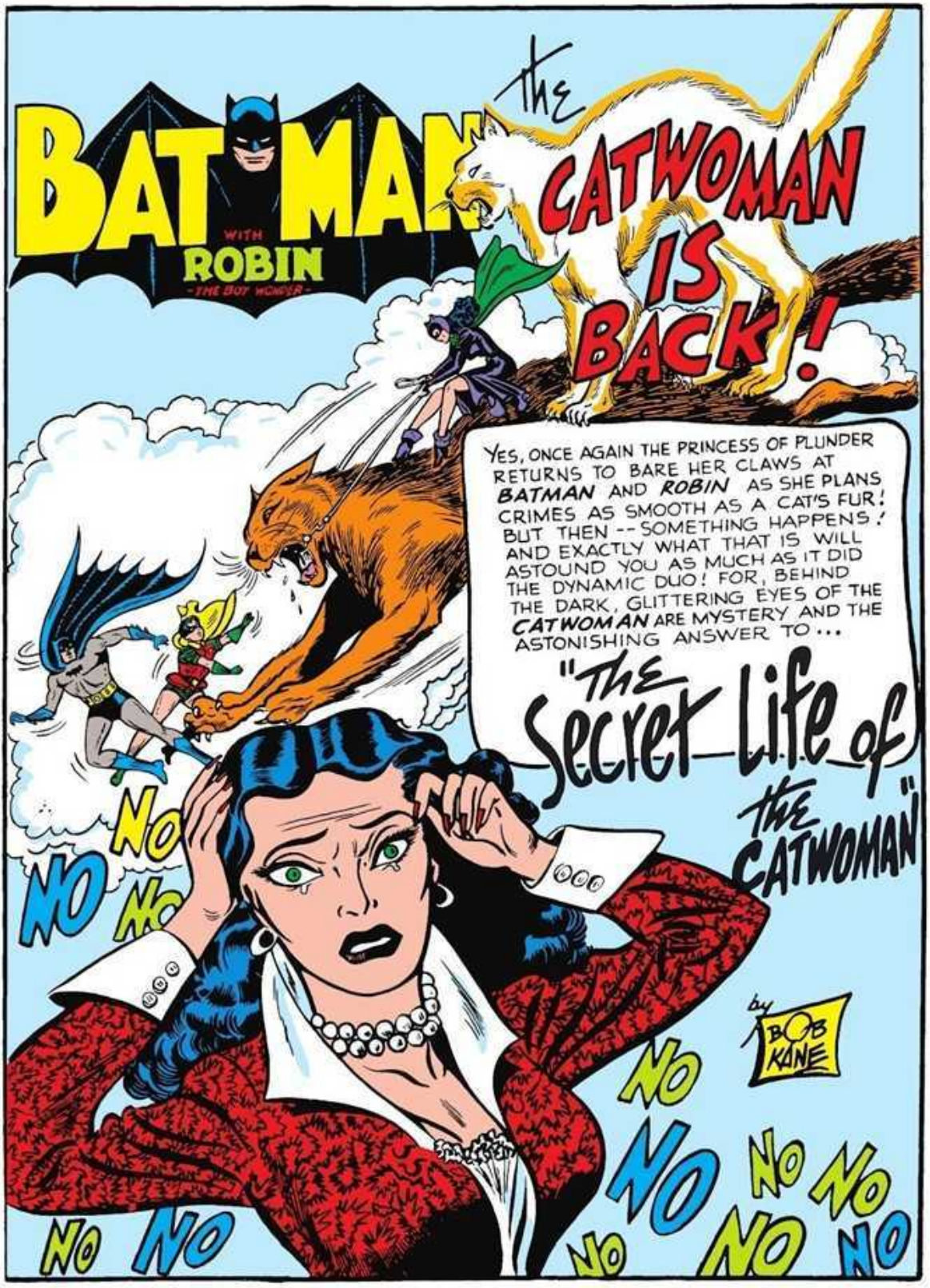
BAT MAN
WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-
THE CATWOMAN IS BACK!
YES, ONCE AGAIN THE PRINCESS OF PLUNDER RETURNS TO BARE HER CLAWS AT BATMAN AND ROBIN AS SHE PLANS CRIMES AS SMOOTH AS A CAT'S FUR! BUT THEN -- SOMETHING HAPPENS! AND EXACTLY WHAT THAT IS WILL ASTOUND YOU AS MUCH AS IT DID THE DYNAMIC DUO! FOR, BEHIND THE DARK, GLITTERING EYES OF THE CATWOMAN ARE MYSTERY AND THE ASTONISHING ANSWER TO...
"THE Secret Life of THE CATWOMAN"
by BOB KANE
NO
NO
NO
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NO
NO

SOMEWHERE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF GOTHAM CITY, AS HARD-FACED MEN LOOK EXPECTANTLY AT A MASKED FIGURE...
HA-HA.. ANOTHER HEADLINE ABOUT US! SO FAR WE'RE DOING FINE, BOYS ... BUT FOR THE OTHER ROBBERIES I'VE PLANNED, I'M GOING TO NEED A PARTNER!
GOT ANYBODY IN MIND, MISTER X?
GOTHAM NEWS
MR. X MOB ROBS CITY BANK!
NEW GANG CZAR'S THIRD HAUL THIS WEEK
YES-- THE CLEVEREST, MOST DANGEROUS-- AND MOST BEAUTIFUL LADY OF CRIME IN THE COUNTRY-- THE CATWOMAN!
CATWOMAN? BUT SHE'S IN JAIL!
THEN WE'LL GET HER OUT! YES, I KNOW JUST HOW TO DO IT... AND ONCE CATWOMAN IS FREE, NOTHING WILL STOP US! WE'LL EMBARK ON A CRIME WAVE THE LIKES OF WHICH GOTHAM CITY HAS NEVER BEFORE SEEN!
SLAM!
NEXT DAY, IN THE HOME OF POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON...
GOOD GRIEF, BATMAN! LOOK AT THAT HEADLINE ON THE TELEVISION SCREEN! CATWOMAN'S OUT TO COMMIT MORE CRIMES!
CATWOMAN ESCAPES THROUGH DYNAMITED PRISON WALL!
NOT IF WE CAN HELP IT... RIGHT, ROBIN?
RIGHT, BATMAN!
WHILE ELSEWHERE, IN A SPEEDING CAR--THAT PRINCESS OF PLUNDER--THE CATWOMAN!
SO YOUR BOSS PLANNED MY JAIL-BREAK, EH? BUT WHY?
HE NEEDS YOU FOR A DEAL, CATWOMAN! NOW I GOTTA BLINDFOLD YOU! MISTER X'S PLACE HAS TO BE KEPT SECRET--EVEN FROM YOU!
2
SOON, CRIME QUEEN MEETS CRIME KING!
MISTER X, I PRESUME!
CORRECT, CATWOMAN... LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS! I'VE GOT MANY JOBS LINED UP FOR MY MOB. BUT IN ORDER TO WORK THEM, THE BOYS MIGHT HAVE TO KILL GUARDS OR WATCHMEN! THAT, I DON'T WANT... I DON'T EVER WANT A MURDER RAP HANGING OVER MY HEAD!

CATWOMAN, YOU ALWAYS ROB WITHOUT KILLING, BY USING YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF CATS! SO HERE'S MY OFFER -- YOU DO THE JOBS FOR ME, AND WE'LL SHARE THE LOOT! IF YOU REFUSE, I'LL DO THE JOBS ANYWAY! WHAT DO YOU SAY?
OKAY--WE'RE PARTNERS!
GOOD! DIPPER, HERE, WILL TELL YOU OF THE FIRST PLACE TO BE ROBBED! BY THE TIME WE'RE THROUGH, WE'LL HAVE COMMISSIONER GORDON GOING AROUND IN CIRCLES!
LATER, AS THE CATWOMAN AND DIPPER DISCUSS ROBBERY PLANS IN A CRIMINAL HANGOUT...
HYA, DIPPER OL' PAL! DID-DIDJA TALK TO MISTER X ABOUT ME JOINING HIS MOB, HUH?
BEAT IT, MOUSEY! MISTER X DON'T WANT YOU AROUND! HE LIKES GUYS WITH NERVE! IF THE COPS EVER LOOKED AT YOU, YOU'D FAINT!
AW, PLEASE, DIPPER. I'LL DO ANYTHING TO JOIN THE MOB! UGH! DON'T SHOVE!
HE'S ALWAYS AROUND, CATWOMAN! A REGULAR PEST! HE'S JUST LIKE HIS NAME -- MOUSEY!
CAREFUL MOUSEY, OR I'LL SEND THIS CAT AFTER YOU, HA-HA!
SPLAT
MEOWRR
LATER, IN THE CAT-WOMAN'S EERIE LAIR...
(YAWN) I HATE TO LEAVE THIS WARM FIRE AND MY PRETTY PETS -- BUT IT'S TIME I LOOKED OVER THE FIRST PLACE I'M TO ROB! (YAWN)
MEOWRR
PURR-RR
BUT AS SHE STEPS OUT INTO THE NIGHT...
YOUR HUNCH WAS RIGHT, BATMAN! HER HIDEOUT IS SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE! LET'S GO!
LOOK, ROBIN! IT'S THE CATWOMAN!
5

STEALTHILY, THE MASKED CRIME-BUSTERS CLOSE IN--BUT SUDDENLY...
AH... I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU! MEET MY RED PERSIAN ... A CAT NOTED FOR A FIERY TEMPER THAT MATCHES ITS COLOR! BEING COOPED UP HAS MADE IT VERY IRRITATED! HA-HA!
ROBIN! WATCH OUT!
R
R
R
R
R

WHILE ROBIN PARRIES THE CLAWING CAT, BATMAN PURSUES THE FELINE FELON PAST A CONDEMNED BUILDING, WHERE ...
OHH! A SECTION OF THE WALL IS TOPPLING! BATMAN WILL BE KILLED! I'LL BE ABLE TO ESCAPE NOW! I'LL BE FREE!
WARNING BEWARE OF FALLING BRICKS

BUT WAIT! FOR A SPLIT INSTANT, THE CATWOMAN HESITATES, THEN, LIKE A STREAK OF SABLE LIGHTNING, SHE LEAPS TO SAVE BATMAN!
GET BACK! BA... UHH!
WHAT..?
CRASH

MOMENTS LATER...
I SAW THAT, BATMAN! SHE RISKED HER LIFE TO SAVE YOU! I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT... SOMETIMES SHE ACTS LIKE THE EXACT OPPOSITE!
SHE'S STILL UNCONSCIOUS! WE'D BETTER RACE HER TO THE BAT-CAVE... SHE NEEDS EMERGENCY TREATMENT--FAST!

PRESENTLY, IN THEIR SECRET BAT-CAVE...
SHE'S COMING TO!
LISTEN! WHAT'S SHE SAYING?
FASTEN YOUR SAFETY BELTS! IF WE REMAIN CALM THE PILOT WILL GET US DOWN SAFELY!
FASTEN YOUR SAFETY BELTS!

THEN, AS HER EYES SNAP OPEN...
WH-WHERE AM I? WHERE ARE THE PASSENGERS? DID WE LAND SAFELY? WH-WHO ARE YOU?
CATWOMAN, YOU KNOW PERFECTLY WELL THAT WE'RE BATMAN AND ROBIN!
4

OH, YES... I'VE READ ABOUT YOU! BUT WHY DID YOU CALL ME "CATWOMAN"? I'M SELINA KYLE... STEWARDESS WITH SPEED AIRLINES, AND--OHH--WHY AM I WEARING THIS STRANGE COSTUME?... AND WHY IS YOUR CALENDAR ALL WRONG?.. IT WON'T BE 1950 FOR YEARS!
1950
OCTOBER
I'M ALL MIXED UP! ALL I'M SURE OF IS THAT I FELL OUT THE DOOR JUST AS THE PLANE CRASHED... I HIT MY HEAD AGAINST A BRANCH AND BLACKED OUT!
IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE, THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE EXPLANATION --AMNESIA! THAT BLOW FROM THE BRANCH MUST HAVE CAUSED IT--AND NOW, THIS SECOND BLOW TO YOUR HEAD HAS RESTORED YOUR MEMORY!
TO TEST HIS THEORY, BATMAN PROJECTS MICRO-FILM SLIDES, COLLECTED FROM NEWSREELS OF PAST CRIME CASES...
THIS IS FROM THE CASE CALLED "NINE LIVES HAS THE CATWOMAN"! REMEMBER IT?
NO! BUT THAT GIRL... IT'S ME! I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND...
AND AS A PICTURE HISTORY OF THE CATWOMAN'S CRIMES IS SCREENED--"THE DUPED DOMESTICS", "THE CLAWS OF THE CATWOMAN", "THE LADY ROGUES" ...
NO! NO! DON'T SHOW ME ANY MORE! NOW I UNDERSTAND ...WHILE I HAD AMNESIA, I BECAME A CRIMINAL! OHH.. HOW HORRIBLE... HORRIBLE...
I'M SORRY, SELINA, BUT YOU HAD TO KNOW THE TRUTH!
ONLY ONE THING STILL PUZZLES ME-- YOUR OBSESSION FOR CAT CRIMES!
MY DAD ONCE OWNED A PET SHOP! I LEARNED ALL ABOUT CATS FROM HIM! I GUESS, SUBCONSCIOUSLY, I REMEMBERED ABOUT CATS EVEN WHILE HAVING AMNESIA!
WE'D BETTER GO TO COMMISSIONER GORDON WITH YOUR STORY! TO KEEP THE BATCAVE'S LOCATION A SECRET, WE'LL HAVE TO BLINDFOLD YOU, SELINA!
BLINDFOLD? THAT WORD--SO FAMILIAR--SOMETHING IMPORTANT! WAIT--I REMEMBER! DIPPER--THE SECRET MEETING PLACE-- MISTER X!
MISTER X?!
YES, AS IT OFTEN HAPPENS, IN AMNESIA CASES A WORD STRIKES A CHORD, AND MEMORY BECOMES COMPLETE!
5

LATER, WHEN SELINA KYLE EXPLAINS THE FACTS TO THE COMMISSIONER...
CATWOMAN... ER...I MEAN MISS KYLE, IF YOU WISH TO ATONE FOR YOUR PAST CRIMES, YOU CAN DO SO BY BECOMING OUR UNDERCOVER AGENT.'
THAT'S RIGHT, SELINA... YOU'RE OUR BEST LEAD TO MISTER X, SO WE WANT YOU TO REMAIN AS HIS PARTNER.'

NO... PLEASE! I WANT TO PUT MY CRIMINAL PAST BEHIND ME.'
YOU WILL... BUT AFTERWARD.' REMEMBER, IF YOU PRETEND TO BE MISTER X'S PARTNER, THERE'LL BE NO MORE KILLINGS.' YOU'LL BE DOING A PUBLIC SERVICE! AND IF MY PLAN WORKS, YOU'LL ONLY HAVE TO DO ONE JOB.'

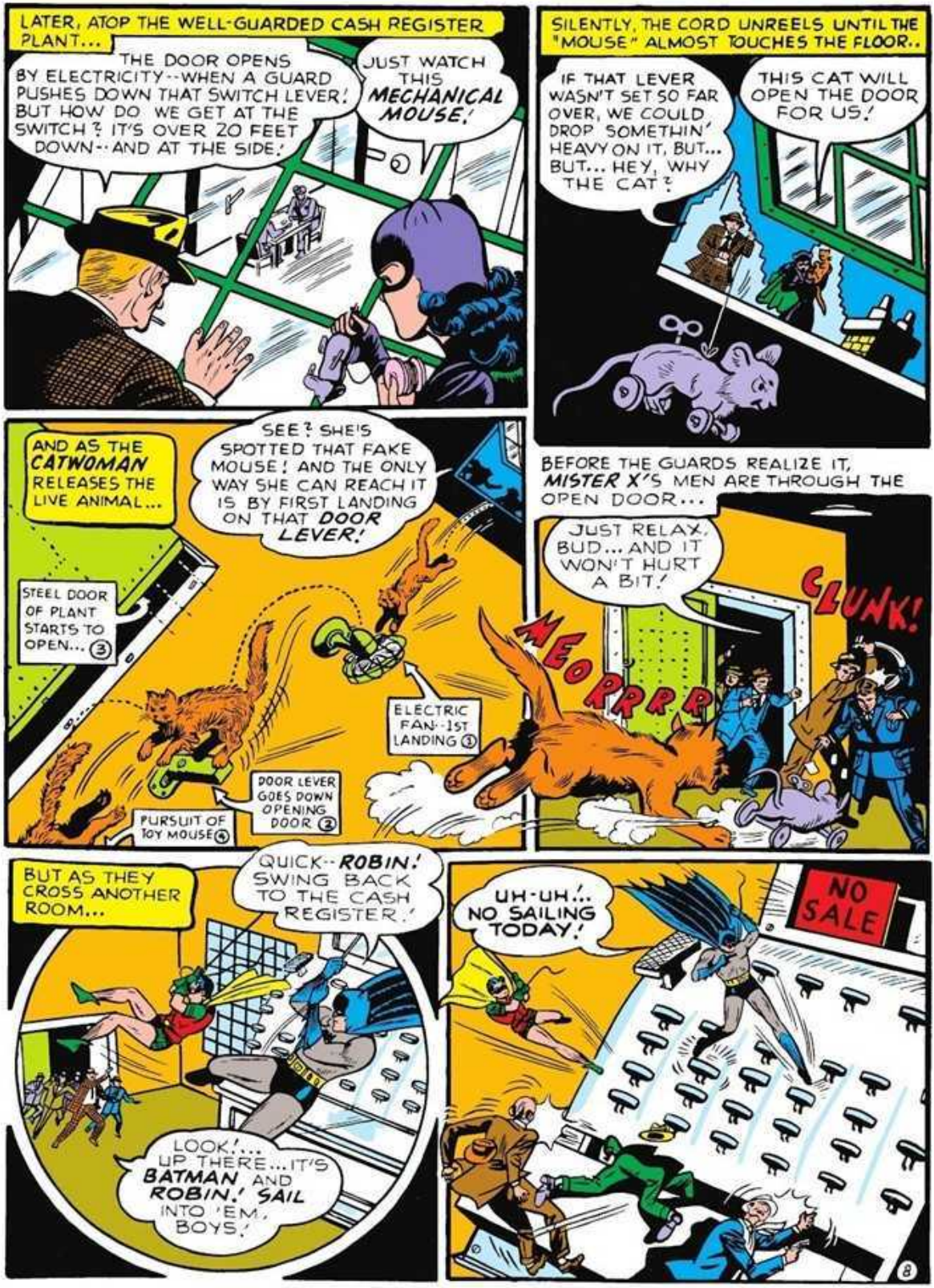
WITH YOU AS OUR SECRET OPERATIVE, WE'LL GET MISTER X, AND... WHA..?
COMMISSIONER, I JUST PICKED UP THIS PUNK FOR CARRYING A GUN.' HE... ULP! SORRY, SIR... I THOUGHT YOU WERE ALONE.'
MOUSEY!

THIS MAN IS DANGEROUS! HE'S ALWAYS WANTED TO JOIN MR. X'S GANG! NOW, HE'LL SURELY TELL MR. X ABOUT ME -- AS A BRIBE!
IN THAT CASE, WE MUST LOCK HIM UP.' OFFICER, CHARGE HIM WITH CARRYING A CONCEALED WEAPON ... NOBODY'S TO SEE HIM TILL THIS CASE IS FINISHED.'
HUH? I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS, CATWOMAN!

AFTER MOUSEY IS LED OFF...
WELL, SELINA KYLE... ALIAS THE CATWOMAN, YOU'RE NOW WORKING FOR THE LAW! DON'T FORGET THAT!
I WON'T -- UNLESS I GET AMNESIA AGAIN.' I WAS SCARED, BUT NOT ANYMORE... NOT WHILE MOUSEY IS SAFELY LOCKED UP!

BUT IS HE? FOR AS SOON AS THE FURTIVE LITTLE CROOK IS ALONE IN HIS CELL...
HA, HA... LUCKY THOSE COPPERS DIDN'T FIND THIS FILE HIDDEN IN MY SHOE! ONCE I GET OUT, IT'LL BE BYE-BYE CATWOMAN.'
EACH RASP OF THE FILE IS LIKE THE TICK OF A CLOCK... AND WITH EACH PASSING MOMENT, DEATH LOOMS CLOSER FOR SELINA KYLE -- ALIAS THE CATWOMAN.'

THAT NIGHT, IN THE HALLWAY OF A FAMED RECORDING FIRM, SECRET OPERATIVE CATWOMAN EMBARKS ON HER UNDERCOVER ASSIGNMENT...
REMEMBER THE STORY OF "BELLING THE CAT"? I'VE DONE JUST THAT: THE COLLAR'S MECHANISM WILL KEEP THIS BELL RINGING CONSTANTLY: NOW GET SET...
DI-NG DING
AND AS THE BELLED CAT IS RELEASED INTO A RECORDING STUDIO...
♪ SOMEWHERE THE MOON IS... EEEK!
OMYGOSH! WE'VE GOT TO CATCH THAT CAT BEFORE HER BELL RUINS RECORDS IN THE OTHER STUDIOS, TOO! COME ON-- EVERYBODY!
DING DING DING DING
THEN, WHILE EVERYONE CHASES AFTER THE JANGLING CAT...
NICE WORK, CATWOMAN... THERE AIN'T A PERSON IN SIGHT. WE'LL GET A NICE HAUL HERE, SINCE ALL MASTER RECORDS ARE MADE OF GOLD PLATE.
THE SCOUNDRELS! DURING MY AMNESIA, I'D HAVE GLORIED IN THIS ROBBERY! NOW IT JUST SICKENS ME!
MASTER RECORD ROOM KEEP OUT!
LATER, ON A LONELY ROAD...
HERE'S YOUR SHARE, CATWOMAN ... AND THIS PAPER HAS THE NAME OF THE NEXT PLACE WE ROB!
BUT WAIT... I THOUGHT I WAS TO DEAL WITH MISTER X PERSONALLY!
SORRY... MISTER X GAVE ORDERS! YOU DON'T SEE HIM TILL ALL THE JOBS ARE DONE!
STILL LATER, AT HEADQUARTERS..
SO--THE WELPRUF CASH REGISTER COMPANY IS NEXT ON THEIR LIST!
YES, COMMISSIONER-- BUT MUST I GO ON WITH THIS? I FIND STEALING SO HATEFUL... SO HORRIBLE!
WE'LL HAVE TO CHANGE OUR PLANS-- GET MISTER X DIFFERENTLY! NOW, LISTEN...
MEANWHILE, IN MOUSEY'S CELL...
ONE BAR GONE! TWO MORE TO GO! THEN, I'LL BE OUT TO TIP OFF THE GANG ABOUT CATWOMAN!
SNAP
WILL MOUSEY ESCAPE IN TIME? WILL HE BE ABLE TO EXPOSE THE CATWOMAN TO CERTAIN DEATH?

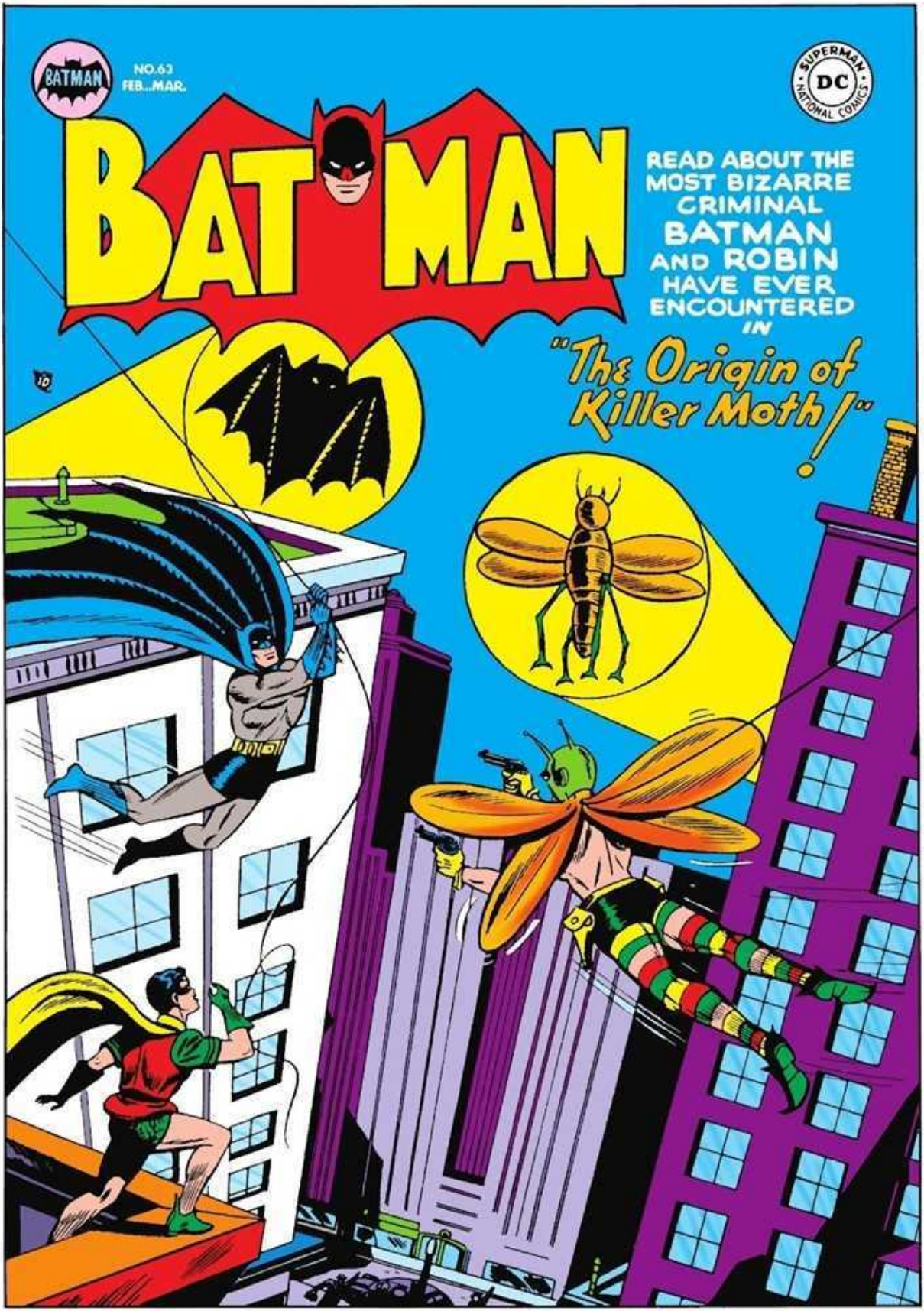

LATER, ATOP THE WELL-GUARDED CASH REGISTER PLANT...
THE DOOR OPENS BY ELECTRICITY--WHEN A GUARD PUSHES DOWN THAT SWITCH LEVER! BUT HOW DO WE GET AT THE SWITCH? IT'S OVER 20 FEET DOWN--AND AT THE SIDE!
JUST WATCH THIS MECHANICAL MOUSE!
SILENTLY, THE CORD UNREELS UNTIL THE "MOUSE" ALMOST TOUCHES THE FLOOR..
IF THAT LEVER WASN'T SET SO FAR OVER, WE COULD DROP SOMETHIN' HEAVY ON IT, BUT... BUT... HEY, WHY THE CAT?
THIS CAT WILL OPEN THE DOOR FOR US!
AND AS THE CATWOMAN RELEASES THE LIVE ANIMAL...
SEE? SHE'S SPOTTED THAT FAKE MOUSE! AND THE ONLY WAY SHE CAN REACH IT IS BY FIRST LANDING ON THAT DOOR LEVER!
STEEL DOOR OF PLANT STARTS TO OPEN... (3)
ELECTRIC FAN--1ST LANDING (1)
DOOR LEVER GOES DOWN OPENING DOOR (2)
PURSUIT OF TOY MOUSE (4)
BEFORE THE GUARDS REALIZE IT, MISTER X'S MEN ARE THROUGH THE OPEN DOOR...
JUST RELAX, BUD... AND IT WON'T HURT A BIT!
CLUNK!
MEOWRRR
BUT AS THEY CROSS ANOTHER ROOM...
QUICK--ROBIN! SWING BACK TO THE CASH REGISTER!
LOOK!... UP THERE... IT'S BATMAN AND ROBIN! SAIL INTO 'EM, BOYS!
UH-UH!.. NO SAILING TODAY!
NO SALE
8

MISSED, BLAST 'EM! THEY KEEP HOPPING AROUND!
TIME FOR ME TO GO INTO ACTION!
MOMENTS LATER, A LENGTHENED CAT-O'-NINE-TAILS SNAPS OUT AT THE MASKED LAWMEN, AND...
HEY! CATWOMAN GOT 'EM FROM THE CATWALK! START SHOOTIN', BOYS!
NO! DON'T SHOOT! I WANT THEM ALIVE!
HUH? WHAT'S S'MATTER, CATWOMAN? GOIN' SOFT?
FOOLS! MY DEAL WITH MISTER X DIDN'T INCLUDE THE CAPTURE OF BATMAN AND ROBIN! I WANT A BONUS FOR THIS, AND I DON'T TALK BUSINESS TILL I SEE MISTER X IN PERSON!
OKAY! THIS IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH FOR ME TO CONTACT HIM!
YOUR PLAN'S WORKING, BATMAN! AT LAST, WE'RE GOING TO MEET MISTER X!
YES, ROBIN, BUT WE MUST REMAIN CAREFUL... LETTING OURSELVES BE "CAPTURED" IS ONLY HALF THE JOB! FROM NOW ON, ONE SLIPUP, AND WE'RE DEAD DUCKS!
AT THAT MOMENT, IN MOUSEY'S CELL...
AHH.. TWO BARS OUT--ONE TO GO! IT WON'T BE LONG NOW--SOON, IT'S GONNA BE CURTAINS FOR THE CATWOMAN!
AND WILL IT ALSO BE CURTAINS FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN? FOR IF THE CATWOMAN DIES, THE PLAN TO RESCUE BATMAN AND ROBIN DIES WITH HER!
HOURS LATER, IN A DESERTED FARMHOUSE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF GOTHAM CITY...
DIPPER EXPLAINED EVERYTHING, CATWOMAN! YOU DID A FINE JOB! BOYS, TAKE THEIR UTILITY BELTS AWAY--I'VE GOT PLANS FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN!
AND WE'VE GOT PLANS FOR YOU, TOO, MISTER X!
9

JUST THEN...
OH! MY CAT IS STILL ANGRY OVER THAT FAKE MOUSE! COME BACK, KITTY... YOU'RE HURTING THE NICE MAN!
HURTING HIM? I WONDER..?
ROWRR
GET RID OF THIS LITTLE MONSTER!
WAIT! THAT SPINDLY OLD CHAIR! NOW I KNOW MY HUNCH IS RIGHT!
OKAY, JOE, AL--LOCK UP BATMAN AND ROBIN IN THAT OLD GRAIN MILL--AND PLANT A TIME BOMB THERE! THE ONLY WAY THEY'LL GET OUT IS BY BEING BLOWN OUT.
OH, DEAR... HOW WILL I SAVE THEM?
SOON, IN MISTER X'S MAKESHIFT PRISON...
UHH! THIS DOOR'S LOCKED SOLID! IT WON'T BUDGE.
AND THERE'S A TIME BOMB SET TO GO OFF ANY MINUTE. THE CATWOMAN HAD BETTER NOT FAIL US--OR WE'RE GONERS.
BUT AT THAT INSTANT, WHEN THE CATWOMAN TRIES TO ACT...
AHA... JUST AS I EXPECTED! SHE WAS ABOUT TO THROW THIS GLASS VIAL--PROBABLY LOADED WITH KNOCKOUT GAS! GRAB HER, BOYS.
BUT... BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW?
HUH? I DON'T GET IT, BOSS--BUT YOU'RE GIVIN' THE ORDERS!
MINUTES LATER...
TOO BAD, CATWOMAN... MOUSEY ESCAPED FROM JAIL AND LET ME IN ON YOUR WHOLE SCHEME! NOW, YOU'RE DOOMED. AFTER WE TIE YOU TO THIS TRACTOR, WE'LL SEND YOU HURTLING OVER THAT CLIFF. HA, HA!
WITH BOTH BATMAN, ROBIN AND THE CATWOMAN FACING DEATH, WHAT WILL HAPPEN NOW? HOW CAN THEY POSSIBLY BE SAVED?
10

MEANWHILE...
WE CAN'T RISK WAITING FOR THE CATWOMAN ANY LONGER! ROBIN, HELP ME PUSH THIS MILL STONE TO THE FLOOR! HURRY!
SURE... BUT I DON'T GET IT, BATMAN!
WHEN THE TWO MILL STONES LIE IN A LINE POINTING TO THE STRONG DOOR...
THERE! I'VE WEDGED THESE SACKS OF RICE BETWEEN THE DOOR AND THE FIRST STONE! GRAB THAT WATER HOSE, ROBIN AND START DRENCHING THE RICE BAGS!
GOSH, I HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING ...I DON'T!
RICE SWELLS ENORMOUSLY WHEN IT'S WET! IT'S A KNOWN FACT THAT A WET CARGO OF RICE USED TO SMASH OPEN THE HULLS OF WOODEN SAILING SHIPS!
OH... I GET IT! YOU FIGURE THE WET RICE WILL EXPAND ENOUGH TO BURST DOWN THAT DOOR! IT'LL BE A NICE TRY, EVEN IF IT DOESN'T WORK!
SECONDS LATER...
OHH! THEY'RE DEAD! BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE DEAD! =SOB=
GOOD! NOW, DIPPER, START THE TRACTOR MOTOR! IT WILL TAKE THIS DOUBLE-CROSSER RIGHT OVER THE CLIFF!
DOUBLE-CROSSER? Y'MEAN SHE HELD OUT SOME LOOT? AND WHAT'S THAT CRACK YOU MADE ABOUT MOUSEY?
BOOM
AND AS THE TRACTOR GROWLS OMINOUSLY...
I'LL EXPLAIN THINGS LATER, BOYS! LET ME WATCH THIS FIRST!
RRR ROAR
BATMAN, WE'RE TOO LATE! THE CATWOMAN'S HEADED OVER THE CLIFF!
INSTANTLY, BATMAN WHIPS UP A DISCARDED, BROKEN WHEAT SCYTHE AND HISSES IT FORWARD LIKE A BOOMERANG...
SNAP
11

THEN, BEFORE THE STARTLED THUGS CAN TURN...
DIPPER HAS DROPPED! BATMAN--THERE GOES MISTER X.! HE'S GETTING AWAY!
BUT AS THE MASKED GANG CHIEF PASSES THE CATWOMAN...
THANKS FOR THE HAND, CATWOMAN! AHH--I HAD A HUNCH MISTER X WAS A SHORT MAN!
SHORT MAN?! WHY, MISTER X IS MOUSEY!!
I SEE... HE WORE A WOODEN FRAME TO MAKE HIM LOOK BIGGER!
I REALIZED MISTER X WAS ONLY MASQUERADING AS A BIG MAN BECAUSE HIS FLIMSY CHAIR DIDN'T CREAK OR BREAK UNDER HIS WEIGHT! HE DIDN'T YELL WHEN THE CAT WAS CLAWING HIS LEG, SO I GUESSED HE WAS WEARING WOODEN STILTS!
LATER, MOUSEY EXPLAINS THE REASON FOR HIS DISGUISE...
FIRST, IT WAS A GOOD COVERUP! THE COPS WOULD BE HUNTING FOR MISTER X, NOT A PUNK NAMED MOUSEY! YEAH... MY NAME... MOUSEY ... THAT WAS THE REAL REASON FOR EVERYTHING...
NO GANGSTERS WOULD TAKE ORDERS FROM A LITTLE GUY THEY CALL MOUSEY! IN THE UNDERWORLD, YOU HAVE TO BE IMPRESSIVE! SO, BY POSING AS A MYSTERY MAN--A BIG MAN--I GOT MYSELF A GANG! MOUSEY, THE PUNK, BECAME MISTER X, THE BIG SHOT!
YES, MOUSEY, YOU'LL BE THE BIGGEST MAN IN PRISON!
AND SO, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS!
THAT'S THAT! FROM NOW ON I'M PLAIN SELINA KYLE! THE CATWOMAN HAS RETIRED!
I WONDER! SOMEHOW, I THINK THE LAW WILL AGAIN NEED THE SERVICES OF CATWOMAN--POLICE OPERATIVE... AND IT MAY BE SOONER THAN YOU THINK!
THE END
12


BATMAN
NO.63
FEB.-MAR.
SUPERMAN
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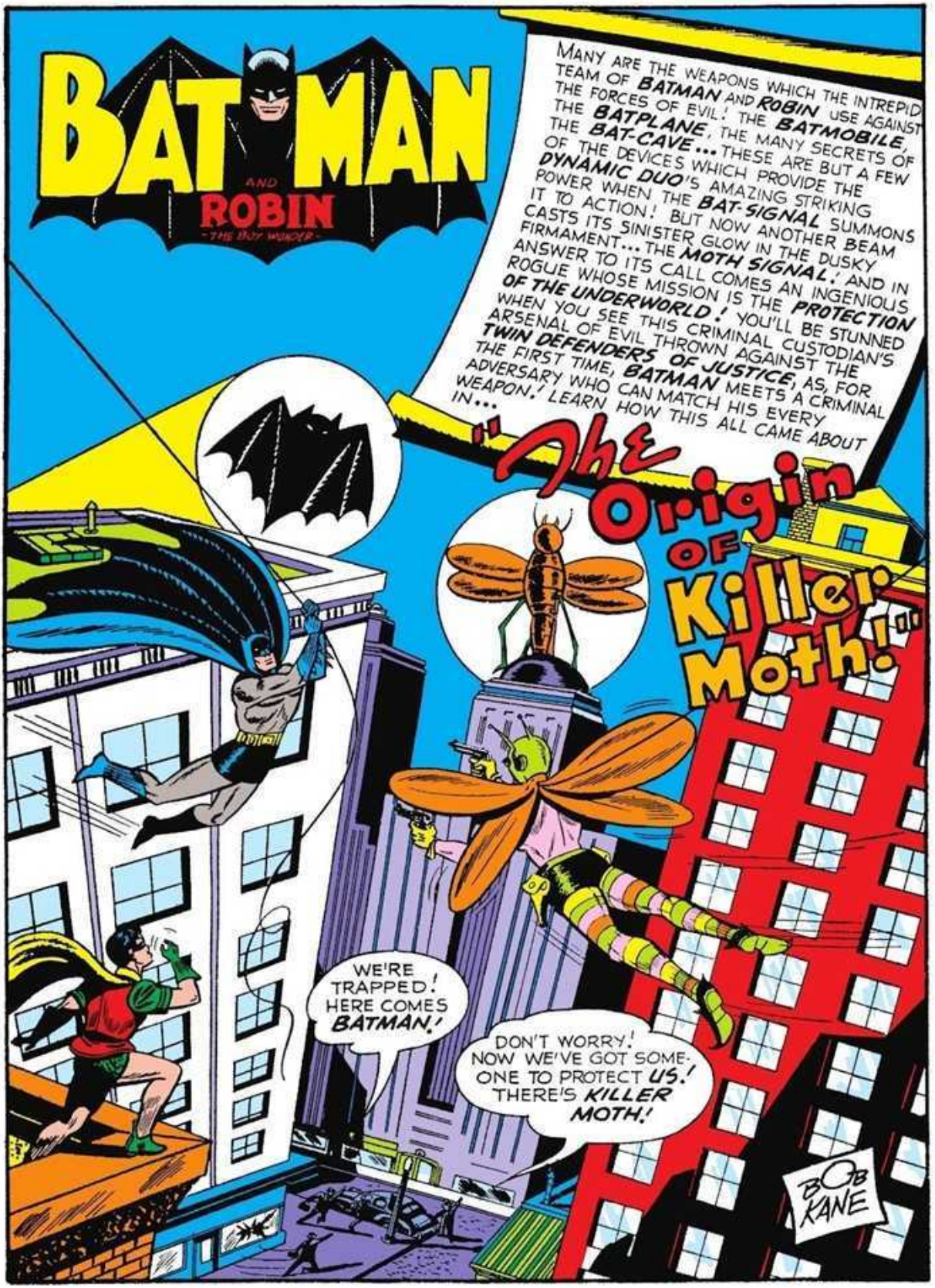
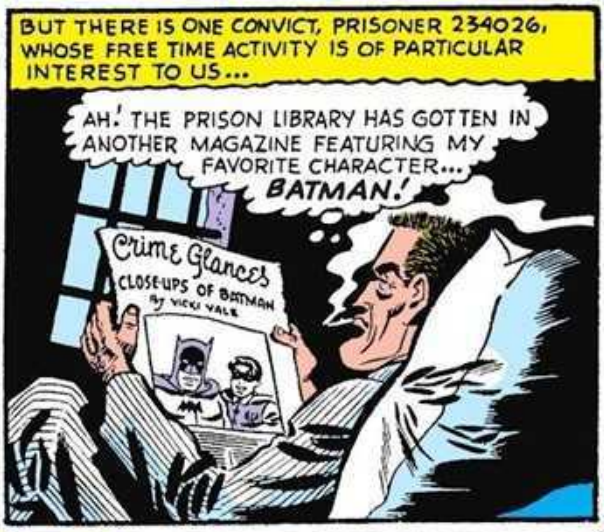
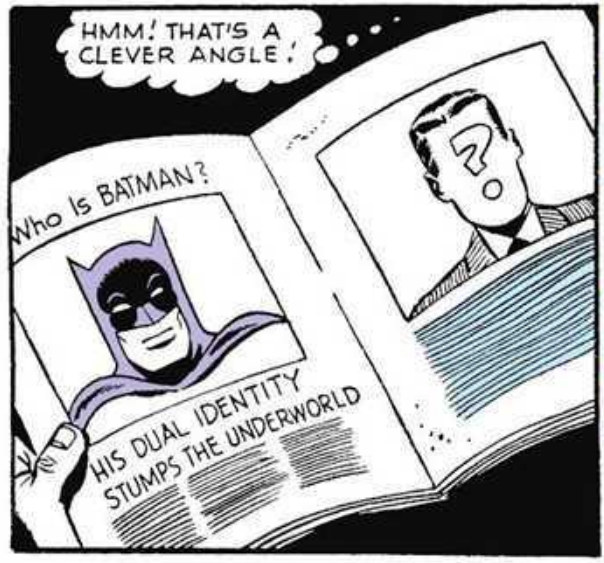
NATIONAL COMICS
BATMAN
READ ABOUT THE MOST BIZARRE CRIMINAL BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE EVER ENCOUNTERED IN
"The Origin of Killer Moth!"
10


BATMAN AND ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-
MANY ARE THE WEAPONS WHICH THE INTREPID TEAM OF BATMAN AND ROBIN USE AGAINST THE FORCES OF EVIL! THE BATMOBILE, THE BATPLANE, THE MANY SECRETS OF THE BAT-CAVE... THESE ARE BUT A FEW OF THE DEVICES WHICH PROVIDE THE DYNAMIC DUO'S AMAZING STRIKING POWER WHEN THE BAT-SIGNAL SUMMONS IT TO ACTION! BUT NOW ANOTHER BEAM CASTS ITS SINISTER GLOW IN THE DUSKY FIRMAMENT... THE MOTH SIGNAL,' AND IN ANSWER TO ITS CALL COMES AN INGENIOUS ROGUE WHOSE MISSION IS THE PROTECTION OF THE UNDERWORLD! YOU'LL BE STUNNED WHEN YOU SEE THIS CRIMINAL CUSTODIAN'S ARSENAL OF EVIL THROWN AGAINST THE TWIN DEFENDERS OF JUSTICE, AS, FOR THE FIRST TIME, BATMAN MEETS A CRIMINAL ADVERSARY WHO CAN MATCH HIS EVERY WEAPON.' LEARN HOW THIS ALL CAME ABOUT IN...
"The Origin of Killer Moth!"
WE'RE TRAPPED! HERE COMES BATMAN!
DON'T WORRY! NOW WE'VE GOT SOMEONE TO PROTECT US! THERE'S KILLER MOTH!
BOB KANE





DOES THE FAMED CRIME-CRUSHER HAVE A FAN BEHIND PRISON WALLS? OR IS THERE A SINISTER REASON FOR CONVICT NUMBER 234026'S INTEREST?

STILL LATER...
ANOTHER PIECE OF BATMAN LORE FOR MY COLLECTION! HE'S TRULY AN AMAZING CHARACTER!
Air Topics
BATPLANE
YEARS PASS, AND AT LAST CONVICT 234026 REJOINS THE WORLD WHERE MEN HAVE NAMES INSTEAD OF NUMBERS...
AT LAST I'M FREE TO DO SOMETHING SO FANTASTIC IT'S NEVER EVEN BEEN ATTEMPTED BEFORE! MY FIRST MOVE IS TO BECOME KNOWN AS CAMERON VAN CLEER!
SOMETIME LATER...
HERE'S YOUR NEW HOME, MR. VAN CLEER! IT'S FULLY FURNISHED AS YOU DIRECTED!
THANK YOU, MR. HUGHES!
LUCKY I HAD ENOUGH LOOT CACHED AWAY TO BUY THIS FANCY LAYOUT!
GRADUALLY, A WALL OF RESPECTABILITY IS BUILT WHICH KEEPS THE SHADOW OF CONVICT 234026 FROM DARKENING THE GAY LIFE OF CAMERON VAN CLEER...
MIGHTY FINE PLACE YOU'VE GOT HERE, VAN CLEER...
I'M A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GOTHAM MUSEUM. BRUCE WAYNE AND SEVERAL OTHER LEADING CITIZENS ARE ON THE BOARD AND WE'D LIKE YOU TO JOIN US, VAN CLEER!
I'D BE DELIGHTED, MR. WILLIAMS! I'LL BE AT THE NEXT MEETING!
BUT, LIKE AN ICEBERG, ONLY A SMALL PART OF CAMERON VAN CLEER'S ESTABLISHMENT IS VISIBLE ABOVE THE SURFACE! FOR, FAR BENEATH THE VELVET LAWNS OF HIS ESTATE...
ONE MORE DAY'S WORK AND THOSE LABORS WILL BE FINISHED!
THE FOLLOWING DAY...
THE CAVE'S FINISHED, MR. VAN CLEER! AND NOW OUR PAY...
HERE'S YOUR PAY... IN LEAD!
BANG! BANG!
OH!
3

THEN THE SCHEME WHICH EVOLVED DURING THE LONG PRISON MONTHS BECOMES A HORRIBLE REALITY, FOR...
AND NOW, IN THE SECRET CAVE WHOSE LOCATION IS KNOWN ONLY TO ME, I ASSUME AN IDENTITY WHICH WILL MEAN TO THE UNDERWORLD WHAT BATMAN HAS MEANT TO THE WORLD OF LAW AND ORDER!
HA! WITH A LIGHTNING CHANGE, THE RESPECTED CITIZEN, CAMERON VAN CLEER, BECOMES THE MASTER OF CRIME... KILLER MOTH!
AND IN THE AMAZING WEEKS WHICH FOLLOW...
THE FIRST PRODUCT OF THE MOTH CAVE... THE MOTHMOBILE! COMPLETE TO THESE MOTH-LIKE ANTENNAE WHICH WARN OF APPROACHING DANGER ON THE DASHBOARD RADAR SCREEN.
AH, MY TROPHY ROOM! THE CASES ARE EMPTY NOW BUT SOON THEY'LL BE FILLED WITH SOUVENIRS OF THE GREATEST CRIMES IN THE CITY'S HISTORY! AND WHEN ONE DAY BATMAN MEETS WITH KILLER MOTH, I SHALL TAKE THE GREATEST TROPHY OF THEM ALL... THE MASK OF BATMAN!
NOW MY CRIME LAB IS COMPLETE! BATMAN'S IS EQUIPPED TO DETECT CRIME, BUT IN MINE I DEVELOP THE MOST SCIENTIFIC METHODS FOR MAKING A CRIME IMPOSSIBLE TO SOLVE! FOR INSTANCE, THESE DISPENSABLE GUN BARREL LINERS WHICH ARE DISCARDED AFTER EVERY SHOT WILL MAKE TRACING A BULLET BY ITS MARKINGS IMPOSSIBLE!
AND SEVERAL DAYS LATER, IN A NOTORIOUS UNDERWORLD HIDEOUT...
WHEN THE POLICE WANT BATMAN, THEY SUMMON HIM WITH THE BAT SIGNAL! NOW, WHEN YOU CHEAP CROOKS WANT TO PURCHASE MY HELP, YOU CAN CALL ON KILLER MOTH WITH THESE MOTH SIGNALS!
HEY! MINE DON'T WORK! I POINT IT AT THE WALL AND NOTHIN' SHOWS!
4

OF COURSE NOT, YOU FOOL! DO YOU WANT EVERY COP IN TOWN ON YOUR NECK WHEN YOU FLASH THE SIGNAL? THE MOTH SIGNAL GIVES AN INFRA-RED LIGHT WHICH I ALONE CAN SEE THROUGH THESE SPECIAL GLASSES!
THE MOTH SIGNAL IS BUT ONE OF THE INGENIOUS DEVICES I HAVE CREATED TO COMBAT THE LAW! ANOTHER IS THIS PAIR OF ANTENNAE WHICH PICK UP POLICE RADIO CALLS AND TRANSMIT THEM TO THE EARPHONES INSIDE MY HELMET.'
BATMAN HAS HIS ASSISTANT ROBIN! WHO HAVE YOU GOT?
BATMAN NEVER CARRIES A GUN! BUT THIS IS MY LITTLE ASSISTANT RIGHT HERE, AND IT'S WORTH SIX ROBINS.' HA,HA!
LATER...
NOW EVERYTHING IS READY! I'LL RETURN TO MY ROLE AS CAMERON VAN CLEER AND WAIT FOR THE FIRST CALL FROM THE UNDERWORLD THAT WILL SUMMON KILLER MOTH INTO ACTION.'
AND AS WHAT MAY WELL BE THE MOST SINISTER FORCE EVER PITTED AGAINST THE LAW AWAITS THE MOMENT TO STRIKE, WHAT IS THE ACE CRIME-CRUSHER, BATMAN, DOING? LET US JOIN HIM SEVERAL HOURS LATER AT A SMART ROOF GARDEN RESTAURANT WHERE AS BRUCE WAYNE, WEALTHY SOCIALITE...
HE IS DINING WITH A FELLOW MUSEUM DIRECTOR...
I'M GLAD YOU WERE ABLE TO HAVE DINNER WITH ME TONIGHT, MR. VAN CLEER.' I'LL BRING YOU UP TO DATE ON THE MUSEUM'S PROBLEMS.
THAT'S VERY THOUGHTFUL OF YOU, MR. WAYNE.'
YES, IT'S TRUE.' THE GREATEST FORCES OF GOOD AND EVIL SITTING FACE TO FACE ACROSS A TABLE.' BUT DOES EITHER KNOW THE IDENTITY OF THE OTHER? LET US SEE ...
5

FOR AT THIS MOMENT, A STRANGE THING HAPPENS...
THE BAT SIGNAL! THAT MEANS I'VE GOT TO GET TO HEADQUARTERS FAST AS BATMAN! BUT HOW CAN I GET AWAY FROM VAN CLEER?
AND AN INSTANT LATER...
THE MOTH SIGNAL! I CAN SEE IT THROUGH MY SPECIAL GLASSES! I'VE GOT TO GET TO THE CROOK WHO NEEDS HELP ON A JOB FROM KILLER MOTH! BUT HOW WILL I GET AWAY FROM WAYNE?
HERE'S WHAT CAMERON VAN CLEER SEES.
THEN...
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, MR. VAN CLEER, BUT I JUST REMEMBERED THAT I...
WILL YOU FORGIVE ME, MR. WAYNE, I JUST RECALLED THAT...
WELL, IT SEEMS WE BOTH SUDDENLY REMEMBERED URGENT APPOINTMENTS WE HAD ELSEWHERE!
YES, QUITE A COINCIDENCE!
THIS MAKES IT EASIER FOR ME TO GET AWAY IN A HURRY!
AND A LUCKY BREAK FOR ME! MY LEAVING WON'T INCONVENIENCE VAN CLEER!
SWIFTLY, BRUCE RACES TO HIS ESTATE, THEN THROUGH A SECRET DOOR WHERE...
HURRY, ROBIN! I'VE ALREADY WASTED PRECIOUS SECONDS GETTING HERE AND THERE'S AN URGENT CALL OUT FOR BATMAN ROBIN!
THE BATMOBILE'S ALREADY ON THE CATAPULT LIFT SO WE WON'T WASTE ANY TIME GETTING OUT OF THE BAT CAVE!
SWIFT SECONDS LATER, A SLEEK, HIGH-POWERED VEHICLE SLICES THROUGH THE NIGHT AIR AS THE DASHING DUO HURTLES TOWARD HEADQUARTERS...
I WONDER WHAT THE COMMISSIONER WANTS, BATMAN?
WE'LL KNOW IN A FEW SECONDS MORE, ROBIN!
6

MEANWHILE, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY, A SECRET DOOR IS OPENED AND...
LUCKY THE MOTHMOBILE'S ALREADY SET UP ON THE HYDRAULIC HOIST.' I WON'T WASTE ANY TIME GETTING IT OUT OF THE MOTH CAVE.'
AND SECONDS LATER, AS A SPEEDING JUGGERNAUT RACES TOWARD ITS OBJECTIVE..
NOW TO ANSWER THE FIRST CALL FOR KILLER MOTH.' HA, HA! THE CROOKS WHO SIGNALED ME DON'T YET KNOW THAT MY PRICE IS TWO-THIRDS OF THEIR LOOT.'
PRESENTLY...
THOSE CROOKS ARE TAKING A BEATING FROM THE COPS... AT THE MOMENT.' BATMAN OFTEN TURNS THE TABLES FOR LAWMEN WITH HIS SILKEN CORD.' NOW LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE MOTH ARRIVES ON HIS STEEL STRAND.'
THEN, A MASKED FIGURE HURTLES THROUGH THE AIR SUPPORTED BY A SLENDER STRAND OF STEEL AND...
LOOK, BOSS! IT'S THE MOTH.' WE'RE SAVED.'
BLAM
BLAM
HA, HA! THOSE COPS ARE SO SURPRISED TO SEE A FIGURE SWINGING THROUGH THE AIR THAT ISN'T BATMAN THAT THEY'RE NOT EVEN FIRING BACK.'
BUT SUDDENLY THERE IS A HISS OF SILK RACING THROUGH THE AIR AND...
BATMAN.' SO WE MEET SO SOON.'
AND SO, SUSPENDED IN MID-AIR, ONE BY A WISP OF STEEL, THE OTHER BY A LENGTH OF SILK THE TWO TITANS CLASH.'
7

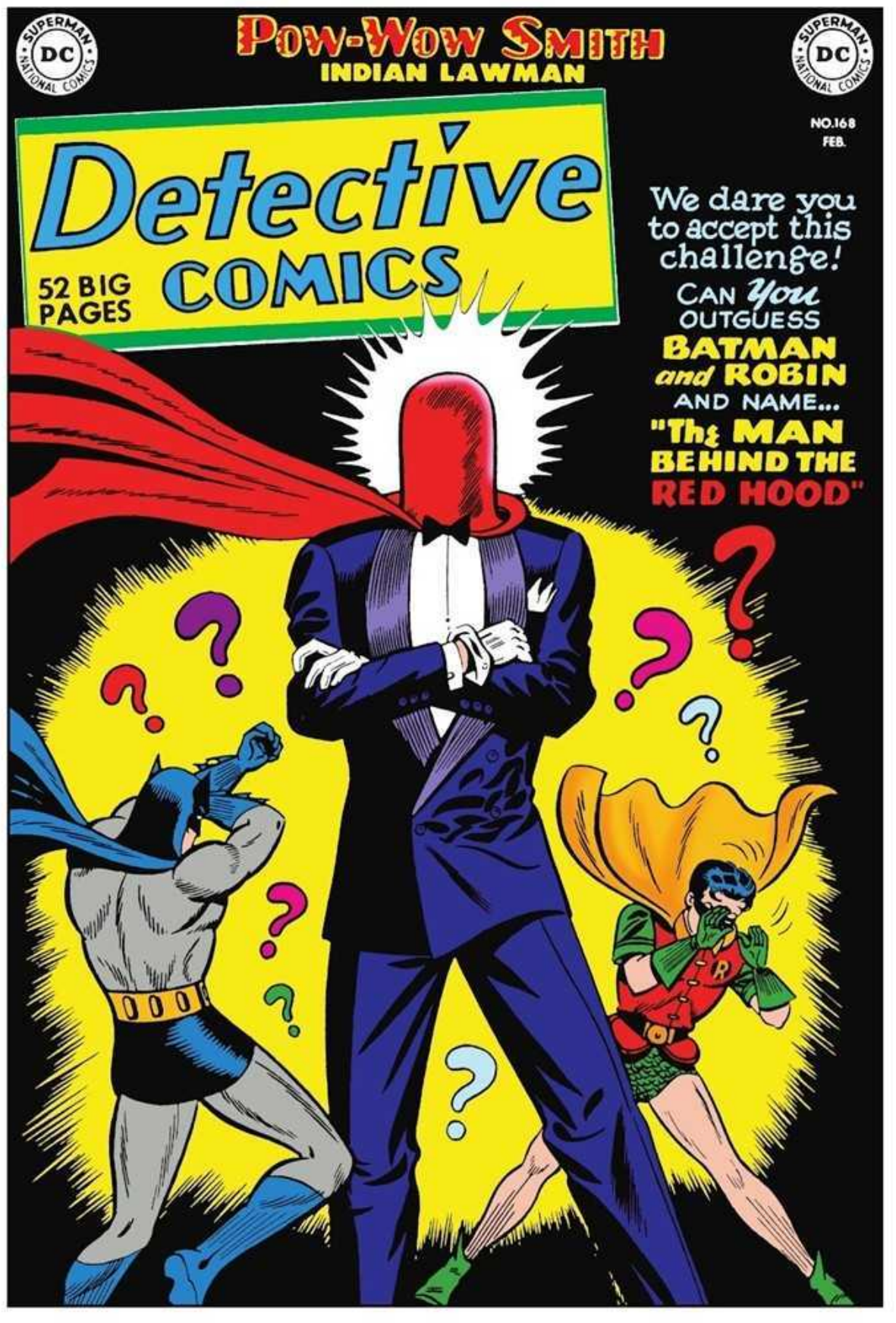
BOOM!
THUD
IF YOU'RE GOING IN FOR AERIAL COMBAT, YOU'D BETTER LEARN WITHOUT A GUN!
IF BATMAN THINKS I'LL BE A PUSH-OVER WITHOUT MY GUN, HE'S GOT A FEW SURPRISES COMING!
WITH THE DYNAMIC DUO IN SWIFT PURSUIT, THE MOTH LEAPS INTO HIS STRANGE VEHICLE WHERE...
HERE'S A LITTLE REFINEMENT THAT EVEN THE BATMOBILE DOESN'T CARRY!
EXHAUST GAS CONTROL
IRRITANT
ANESTHETIC
AND AS TWO HIGHWAY MONSTERS THUNDER THROUGH THE STREETS...
BATMAN! THAT EXHAUST ...(CHOKE)... IT MUST HAVE SOME KIND OF GAS ...(CHOKE)... IN IT! MY EYES... THEY BURN!
I CAN'T SEE TO DRIVE, ROBIN! I'M GOING TO HAVE TO... (CHOKE)... STOP THE BATMOBILE!
HA! HA! HE'S STOPPED! NOW TO GIVE THOSE TWO A LITTLE REST!
ANESTHETIC
THEN A POWERFUL ANESTHETIC IS RELEASED FROM THE MOTHMOBILE'S EXHAUST STREAM WHICH POURS OVER THE OCCUPANTS OF THE BATMOBILE...
IT WORKED! THEY'RE BOTH SLEEPING LIKE BABES! NOW TO TAKE THE BATMOBILE IN TOW!

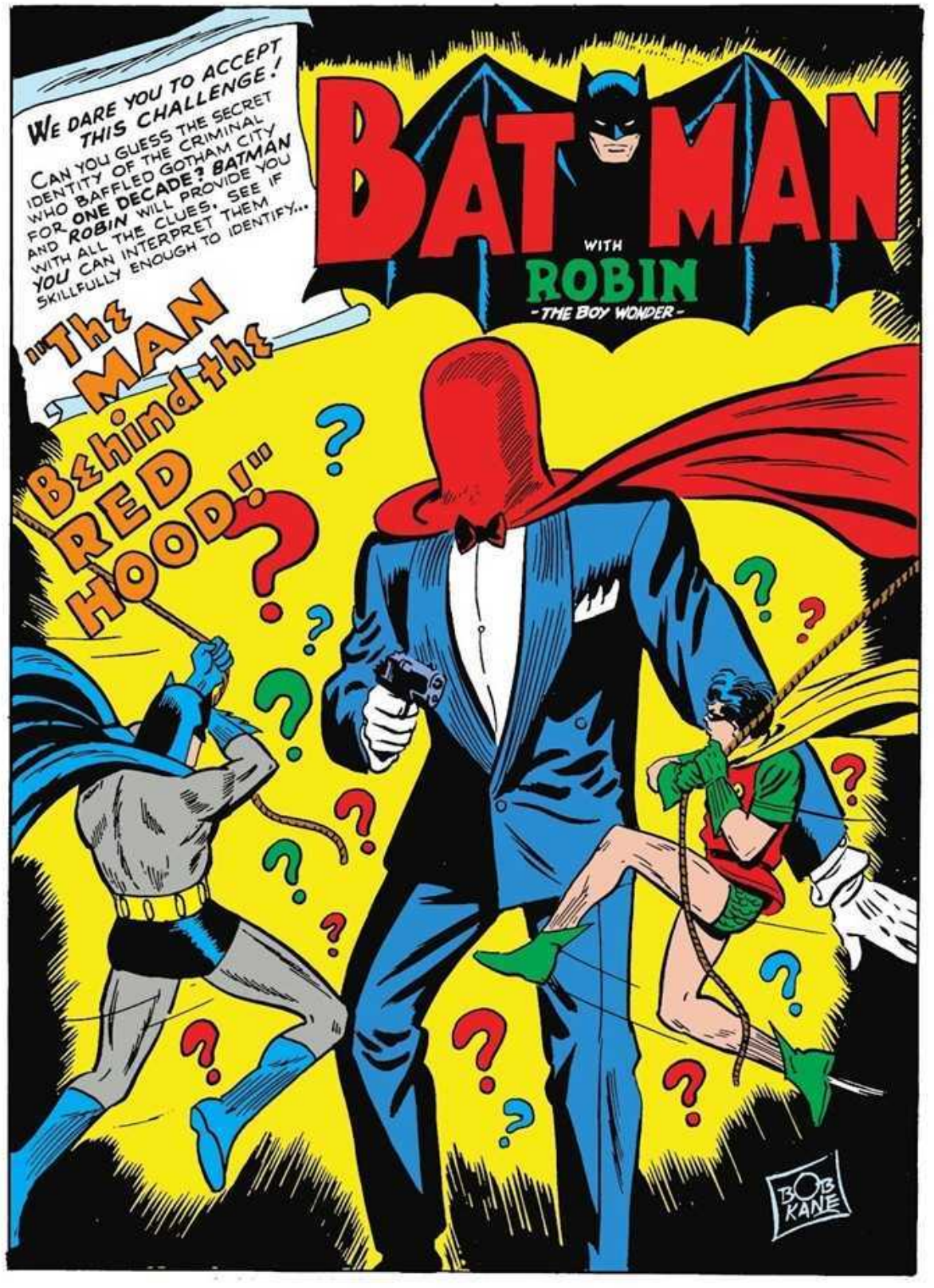
SOMETIME LATER, AS BATMAN AWAKENS FROM HIS ARTIFICIALLY INDUCED SLUMBER...
HOW DID I GET BACK TO THE BAT-CAVE? NO! WAIT! THAT ISN'T WHERE I AM! IT MUST BE ANOTHER CAVE! BUT WHERE?
WELCOME TO THE MOTH-CAVE, BATMAN! HMM... I COULD REMOVE YOUR MASK AND REVEAL YOUR IDENTITY RIGHT NOW... BUT THAT WOULD END OUR LITTLE GAME! AND FRANKLY, I ENJOY TORTURING YOU THIS WAY! HA! HA!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH ROBIN? IF HE'S HARMED, I'LL...
AS THE BOUND LAWMAN SPEAKS, THE MOTH TURNS HIM IN HIS CHAIR TO REVEAL...
YOU'RE NOT IN A POSITION TO DO A THING, BATMAN! THERE'S ROBIN! LIKE A MOTH, HE CIRCLES THE FLAME! THE MOTOR WHICH SWINGS HIM IS SO ARRANGED THAT THE CIRCLE WILL GROW SMALLER, UNTIL, EVENTUALLY, LIKE A MOTH, HE WILL BE DESTROYED BY THE FLAME! NOW WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MY MOTH CAVE? HA, HA!
THERE'S JUST ONE WAY YOU CAN SAVE ROBIN, BATMAN! AND THAT'S TO TAKE ME TO YOUR BAT-CAVE! THERE ARE STILL A FEW SECRETS I NEED TO MAKE THE MOTH CAVE COMPLETE! IF YOU REFUSE, ROBIN WILL DIE LIKE A MOTH!
YOU HAVE ME FOR A MOMENT, MOTH! I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO CONSENT!
SOON AFTER...
WE'RE FAR ENOUGH AWAY FROM THE MOTH CAVE TO REMOVE YOUR BLINDFOLD AND BONDS! YOU TAKE OVER AND DRIVE TO THE BAT-CAVE! BUT REMEMBER... YOU CAN'T FIND YOUR WAY BACK TO ROBIN WITHOUT ME, SO DON'T TRY ANY TRICKS! WE HAVE ONE HOUR TO GET TO THE BAT-CAVE AND BACK BEFORE ROBIN REACHES THE FLAME! LET'S GO!
9

MEANWHILE, IN THE MOTH CAVE...
THE MOTOR IS TURNING JUST FAST ENOUGH TO SWING MY BODY SEVERAL FEET OFF THE FLOOR. BUT IF I WERE HEAVIER... HMM, THOSE BIG CONTAINERS OF CHEMICALS GIVE ME AN IDEA.'
USING HIS SUPERB ACROBATIC SKILL, ROBIN TWISTS BACK AND FORTH, DIVERTING HIS SWING AROUND THE FLAME FROM A CIRCLE TO AN OVAL. THEN...
AT THE HEIGHT OF MY SWING I CAN JUST REACH THAT CONTAINER AND... AH.' GOT IT.'
THE ADDED WEIGHT OF THE CONTAINER HELD BETWEEN ROBIN'S FEET CAUSES HIM TO SWING CLOSE TO THE FLOOR WHERE...
THIS CONTAINER OF SULPHUR GAVE ME JUST THE ADDED WEIGHT I NEEDED.' NOW THE FRICTION AS THESE ROPES ARE DRAGGED ALONG THE FLOOR WILL SOON WEAR THEM THROUGH.'
SULPHUR
BUT AS THE AGILE YOUTH BREAKS THE BONDS WHICH HOLD HIS HANDS AND REACHES TO FREE HIS FEET...
UH-UH.' I DROPPED THAT BOTTLE OF SULPHUR INTO THE FLAME AND... {CHOKE}... IT BROKE.' THE MOTH MUST HAVE USED THAT STUFF TO... {CHOKE}... MAKE THE BLINDING GAS HE USED ON US BEFORE.'
UNTYING HIS LEG BONDS BY TOUCH, ROBIN BLINDLY GROPES AWAY FROM THE FLAME.'
I CAN'T SEE, BUT THIS PATH MUST LEAD TO THE OUTSIDE! I CAN FEEL THE STRONG DRAFT CREATED BY THE AIR FROM OUTSIDE RUSHING IN TO FEED THE FLAME! IF I GO IN THE DIRECTION FROM WHICH IT COMES, I'LL SOON BE OUT OF THIS CAVE.'
SHORTLY AFTER...
IT'S ROBIN.'
HE'S WALKING AS IF HE WERE BLIND.' HEY, ROBIN.' WE'RE THE POLICE.' WHAT'S WRONG?
QUICK.' YOU MUST STOP BATMAN BEFORE HE GIVES AWAY THE LOCATION OF THE BAT-CAVE.'
RP
10

SEVERAL MINUTES LATER, IN THE BATMOBILE..
WE BETTER GET TO YOUR BAT-CAVE SOON OR...THAT POLICE CAR! IT'S TRYING TO STOP US! REMEMBER--WITHOUT ME, YOU CAN'T FIND YOUR WAY BACK TO ROBIN!
THOSE POLICE PROBABLY WANT HELP, BUT I HAVE NO CHOICE! I'LL HAVE TO AVOID THEM IN ORDER TO SAVE ROBIN!
WITH A BURST OF BLINDING SPEED, THE BATMOBILE RACES INTO THE NIGHT AND...
BATMAN MUST HAVE SEEN US, BUT HE SHOT RIGHT PAST! WE CAN NEVER CATCH UP WITH THE BATMOBILE!
I'LL NOTIFY HEADQUARTERS THAT WE LOST HIM.
AND IN POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
I'M GLAD YOU'VE REGAINED YOUR EYESIGHT, ROBIN! HERE'S A REPORT FROM CAR 38! BATMAN DELIBERATELY IGNORED THEIR SIGNAL AND SPED AWAY FROM THEM!
HE THINKS I'M STILL IN DANGER! I'VE GOT TO LET HIM KNOW I'M ALL RIGHT BEFORE THEY REACH THE BAT-CAVE! LET ME USE THE POLICE RADIO, COMMISSIONER GORDON!
BATMAN'S UTILITY BELT RECEIVER IS TUNED TO POLICE CHANNELS! IF HE JUST HEARS MY VOICE... ROBIN CALLING BATMAN! ROBIN CALLING BATMAN!
BUT ROBIN DOESN'T KNOW THAT ANOTHER RECEIVER IS ALSO TUNED TO POLICE CHANNELS! FOR, IN THE SPEEDING BATMOBILE...
ROBIN CALLING BATMAN! ROBIN CALLING BATMAN!
ROBIN'S FREE! NOW, INSTEAD OF GOING TO THE BAT-CAVE, I'LL DELIVER THIS CHARACTER TO HEADQUARTERS!
BATMAN'S PROBABLY RECEIVING THIS NEWS THROUGH HIS UTILITY BELT RECEIVER I'VE READ ABOUT! I'VE GOT TO MOVE FAST!
UTILITY BELT RECEIVER FEEDS TO CONCEALED EARPHONES.
ANTENNAE PICK-UP POLICE SIGNAL AND FEED TO CONCEALED RECEIVER AND EARPHONES
SUDDENLY, THE DOOR OF THE BATMOBILE SWINGS OPEN AND...
SORRY I CAN'T CONTINUE THE TRIP WITH YOU, BATMAN! BUT I JUST MADE A SUDDEN CHANGE IN MY PLANS!
WE'RE TRAVELING AT TOP SPEED! IF YOU LEAP, YOU'LL BE KILLED!
11

INSTANTLY, BATMAN APPLIES THE BRAKES AND WHEN THE POWERFUL VEHICLE COMES TO A STOP...
HE SHOULD BE ABOUT 50 YARDS BACK! HOPE THE FALL DIDN'T KILL HIM!
THE FOOL THINKS I JUMPED WHEN ACTUALLY I CLUNG TO THE SIDE OF THE CAR AND CLIMBED UP HERE WHEN HE SLOWED DOWN! NOW TO LEAD HIM TO HIS OWN DOOM!
HEY! BATMAN I'M BACK HERE!
AS HE SHOUTS, THE MOTH LEAPS FOR THE SUSPENSION BRIDGE'S GIANT CABLE SUPPORT! AND AS THE CRIME-CRUSHER FOLLOWS...
I HOPED YOU'D FOLLOW ME! NOW YOU'LL LEARN A FEW TRICKS FROM THE MOTH! FIRST, A SAMPLE OF SOMETHING FROM MY UTILITY BELT!
SECONDS LATER...
THE MOTH PUT GREASE ON THE CABLE AS HE CLIMBED! I CAN'T KEEP MY FOOTING! AND THE RIVER'S ALMOST 1,000 FEET BELOW!
THIS IS WHAT I CALL GIVING BATMAN THE SLIP! HA, HA!
BUT THE RESOURCEFUL LAWMAN IS NOT WITHOUT HIS OWN FAMOUS UTILITY BELT! AND FROM IT...
THIS GREASE SOLVENT SHOULD DO THE TRICK!
SO YOU THINK YOU'VE FOOLED ME, EH, BATMAN? WELL, YOU'VE STILL GOT PLENTY TO LEARN!
IN A RAGE, THE MOTH DEFIANTLY HURLS THE GREASE CONTAINER TOWARD BATMAN! BUT AS HE DOES SO...
SOME OF THE GREASE MUST HAVE DRIPPED AT HIS FEET! WHEN HE THREW IT AT ME, HE LOST HIS FOOTING!
HELP!
HOURS LATER...
NO SIGN OF THE MOTH'S BODY! IT MUST HAVE BEEN WASHED OUT TO SEA, BATMAN! AND SINCE I WAS BLINDED WHEN I GROPED MY WAY OUT OF HIS CAVE, WE'LL NEVER KNOW HIS IDENTITY!
HE WAS QUITE A CUNNING CRIMINAL, ROBIN! I WONDER IF WE'VE REALLY SEEN THE LAST OF HIM?
?
THE END
12


POW-WOW SMITH
INDIAN LAWMAN
SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
NO.168
FEB.
Detective
COMICS
52 BIG PAGES
We dare you to accept this challenge!
CAN You OUTGUESS BATMAN and ROBIN AND NAME...
"The MAN BEHIND THE RED HOOD"


WE DARE YOU TO ACCEPT THIS CHALLENGE!
CAN YOU GUESS THE SECRET IDENTITY OF THE CRIMINAL WHO BAFFLED GOTHAM CITY FOR ONE DECADE? BATMAN AND ROBIN WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH ALL THE CLUES. SEE IF YOU CAN INTERPRET THEM SKILLFULLY ENOUGH TO IDENTIFY...
"THE MAN BEHIND THE RED HOOD!"
BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-
BOB KANE

NIGHTTIME IN GOTHAM CITY--AND TWO MANTLED FIGURES PLUMMET TOWARD THE ROOF OF POLICE HEADQUARTERS IN ANSWER TO THE BAT-SIGNAL!
BATMAN AND ROBIN, I WANT YOU TO MEET DEAN CHALMERS OF STATE UNIVERSITY! HE HAS A FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU!
YES, GENTLEMEN... THIS TERM, THE UNIVERSITY IS STARTING A COURSE IN CRIMINOLOGY, AND WE'D BE HONORED TO HAVE YOU, BATMAN AS GUEST INSTRUCTOR!
NEXT MORNING, AS BATMAN'S TALL FIGURE STRIDES ACROSS THE COLLEGE CAMPUS...
BOY, LOOK AT THOSE SHOULDERS ON BATMAN! WHAT A FULLBACK HE'D MAKE!
(SIGH) GOLLY, I'M SORRY I DIDN'T SIGN UP FOR THAT COURSE! (SIGH) ISN'T HE DIVINE?
TO UNDERSTAND HIS CLASS BETTER, BATMAN STARTS BY INTERVIEWING EACH STUDENT PRIVATELY!...
MY FAMILY LIVES IN HAWAII! SOMEDAY I HOPE TO BE A MEDICAL EXAMINER ON THE HAWAII POLICE DEPARTMENT!
PAUL WONG, WHY DID YOU PICK THIS COURSE?
YES, EACH STUDENT HAS HIS REASON, LIKE JIMMY KALE, FOR EXAMPLE...
MY FATHER WAS CHIPS KALE, THE GANGSTER! I SWORE I'D MAKE IT UP TO SOCIETY BY TAKING THE PLACE OF THE FBI MAN HE ONCE KILLED! IT'S A DEBT I MUST PAY OFF!
THAT AFTERNOON, PROFESSOR BATMAN BEGINS ACTUAL INSTRUCTION...
THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT OF CRIME-FIGHTING, CLASS, IS OBSERVATION AND DEDUCTION! NOW, IF THIS FOOTPRINT WERE FOUND AT THE SCENE OF A CRIME, WHAT WOULD YOU OBSERVE AND DEDUCE?
OBSERVATION: THE HEEL PRINT IS UNCOMMONLY DEEP WHEREAS THE SOLE PRINT IS VERY LIGHT! DEDUCTION: THE CRIMINAL TRIED TO FOOL THE POLICE BY WALKING AWAY BACKWARD!
RIGHT, JIMMY!

STUDY THIS PHOTOGRAPH! THE MAN, A GANGSTER, WAS FOUND DEAD! WAS HE A SUICIDE OR A MURDER VICTIM? OBSERVE AND DEDUCE!
OBSERVATION: THE GUN HOLSTER IS ON THE RIGHT SHOULDER, THEREFORE THE GANGSTER MUST BE LEFT HANDED! DEDUCTION: HE WAS MURDERED! HIS KILLER MADE THE MISTAKE OF PUTTING THE GUN IN HIS RIGHT HAND!
VERY GOOD, PAUL! WHAT ELSE?
DID I MISS ANYTHING?
YES! OBSERVATION: ALL THE CIGARETTES HAVE SMOOTH ENDS, EXCEPT THIS ONE! ITS END IS CRIMPED! DEDUCTION: IT WAS SMOKED BY HIS KILLER-- WHO USED A CIGARETTE HOLDER!
IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW, THE CLASS LEARNS MORE AND MORE TRICKS ABOUT CRIME FIGHTING...
WRAPPING A HANDKERCHIEF AROUND A MURDER GUN MIGHT SMUDGE FINGERPRINTS! THE CORRECT WAY TO LIFT THE GUN IS BY POKING A PENCIL INTO THE MUZZLE!
AND ONE MONTH LATER...
NOW, CLASS, YOU'RE READY FOR A TEST CASE--AN ACTUAL CRIME THAT EVEN I NEVER SOLVED! IN FACT, THE CRIMINAL WAS NEVER CAUGHT! HE CALLED HIMSELF-- THE RED HOOD!
"IT HAPPENED TEN YEARS AGO!" HIS CRIMES STIRRED GOTHAM CITY, AND ALL HIS VICTIMS TOLD THE SAME STORY..."
HE WORE A HOOD OVER HIS HEAD! IT WAS RED, SHINY AND SMOOTH-- ALL ONE PIECE! IT DIDN'T EVEN HAVE CUTOUTS FOR EYE HOLES!
BUT THAT'S CRAZY! HOW COULD THE GUY SEE?
3

"AT FIRST, I DOUBTED THE STORIES! THAT IS, UNTIL ONE NIGHT WHEN I SPOTTED A FIGURE SNEAKING INTO AN ICE PLANT..."
THE RED HOOD! THEN THE STORIES ARE TRUE--YOUR HOOD IS BLANK FACED!
YES, BATMAN, BUT I CAN SEE JUST THE SAME! WHO KNOWS? PERHAPS I CAN SEE THROUGH METAL BECAUSE I HAVE X-RAY EYES!
YOU SEE, CRIMINALS CAN BE IDENTIFIED BY THEIR EARS, THE COLOR OF THEIR EYES, THE SHAPE OF A CHIN! BUT NO ONE WILL EVER IDENTIFY ME--BECAUSE MY HOOD COVERS MY FEATURES COMPLETELY!
SO THAT'S THE REASON FOR IT!
* SUDDENLY, I LEAPED AT HIM--HIS GUN FLAMED--BUT NOT AT ME! INSTEAD, STEEL-JACKETED SLUGS RIPPED INTO THE PIPES OF CHOKING AMMONIA GAS!
BLAM BLAM BLAM
(COUGH)... CAN'T... BREATHE... (COUGH)
"I SWERVED TO THE OPEN WINDOW, SUCKING FRESH AIR INTO MY STRAINING LUNGS--AND WHEN I TURNED BACK..."
THE RED HOOD... HE'S GONE--ESCAPED! BUT HOW COULD HE, SO QUICKLY? HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN WEAKENED BY THE GAS, AS I WAS!
"FOR ONE MONTH MORE, THE RED HOOD ROBBED AND ESCAPED--UNTIL ONE NIGHT, WE CORNERED HIM FLEEING FROM ANOTHER CRIME..."
GREAT SCOTT! HE'S DIVING INTO THE CATCH BASIN FOR ALL THE WASTE CHEMICALS FROM YOUR PLANT!
MONARCH PLAYING CARD CO.
THE LIQUID EMPTIES OUT INTO THE RIVER, BUT HE'LL NEVER MAKE IT! THAT DEADLY CHEMICAL MIXTURE WILL FINISH HIM FIRST!
WELL, WE NEVER RECOVERED HIS BODY... AND TO THIS DAY, WE DON'T KNOW WHETHER THE RED HOOD DIED, OR SUDDENLY DECIDED TO RETIRE! PERHAPS YOU HAVE THE ANSWERS, CLASS!
AND PERHAPS YOU, TOO, HAVE THE ANSWERS READER! FOLLOW THE REST OF THE STORY CLOSELY, AND SEE WHAT YOU CAN MAKE OF THE CLUES WHICH TURN UP!
4

NEXT DAY, BATMAN'S STUDENTS MAKE FRONT PAGE NEWS...
SAY, LISTEN TO THIS--"BATMAN CRIME CLASS REOPENS RED HOOD CASE"!
"STUDENTS PROBE TEN-YEAR MYSTERY"! GEE, WE CERTAINLY HIT THE HEADLINES!
AND THAT NIGHT, TWO BRILLIANT STUDENT SLEUTHS ANALYZE CRIME CLUES...
I MAY HAVE THE ANSWER TO HOW HE COULD SEE THROUGH HIS METAL HOOD!
I'VE ADDED THE AMOUNT OF MONEY HE STOLE, AND IT TOTALS #1,000,000! PAUL, I'VE A HUNCH THE RED HOOD IS STILL ALIVE!
AT THAT MOMENT, NEAR THE COLLEGE CASHIER'S OFFICE, A FANTASTIC FIGURE APPEARS... A FIGURE NOT SEEN IN A DECADE!
TH-THAT MASK--THE ONE BATMAN TALKED ABOUT! Y-YOU'RE THE RED HOOD!
SMART FELLOW... NOW, IF YOU WANT TO LIVE, LET ME AT THE SAFE HOLDING THE COLLEGE PAYROLL!
URSAR'S OFFICE
NO, I WON'T... OH-H-H...
I ADMIRE YOUR COURAGE, WATCHMAN, BUT NOT YOUR STUPIDITY!
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
AS THE ALARM BELL RESOUNDS THROUGH THE CAMPUS, BATMAN AND ROBIN RESPOND SWIFTLY...
THERE GOES SOMEBODY, BATMAN! I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM!
BUT WHEN ROBIN SWINGS AT THE SHADOWY FIGURE...
MY SUNDAY PUNCH, STRANGER! OWW! MY FIST!
CLANG!!
5

THE RED HOOD! AFTER TEN YEARS, HE'S COME BACK! ROBIN, HOW'S YOUR HAND?
I BROKE A FINGER! FORGET ABOUT ME, BATMAN... GO GET THAT CROOK!
PHYSICS HALL
SECONDS LATER, AMONG THE PHYSICS HALL'S HUGE SCALE MODELS OF MOLECULAR STRUCTURES...
THIS IS HOW YOU'LL SPLIT IF MY FIST CATCHES UP WITH YOU!
BUT WHEN IT SEEMS BATMAN HAS TRAPPED THE RED HOOD IN THE BASEMENT...
WHERE'D HE GO? NOT IN THE SCHOOL GAS MAIN! HE COULDN'T LIVE IN THERE TWO MINUTES! HE MUST'VE GOTTEN OUT ANOTHER WAY-- BUT HOW?
TUT-TUT, BATMAN-- YOU'RE NO ATOM-SMASHER! HA, HA!
DANGER POISON GAS DO NOT OPEN DOOR
LATER, IN THEIR EVERY-DAY IDENTITIES AS SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, THE DYNAMIC DUO RETURNS TO THE BATCAVE, WHERE...
HERE'S A PIECE OF HAIR FROM THAT HAT... MOVE THE LAMP OVER, DICK-- I NEED MORE LIGHT! CAN'T SEE THE HAIR'S COLOR!
SURE, BRUCE... OOPS! FORGOT-- SHOULDN'T HAVE USED MY BAD HAND! CATCH IT! IT'S TIPPING OVER!
AND BACK IN THE MOLECULE EXHIBIT ROOM...
WELL, ANYHOW, HE ACCIDENTALLY LEFT THIS CLUE BEHIND... A ROLL-UP HAT OF SOFT FELT! OBVIOUSLY HE CAN'T WALK AROUND WEARING A RED HOOD AFTER A ROBBERY--SO HE CARRIES THE HOOD IN A PAPER BAG AND WEARS A HAT!
TOO LATE! THE HOT LIGHT BULB TOUCHES THE HAIR AND...
MY FAULT! GEE, I'M SORRY, BRUCE... THAT WAS THE ONLY CLUE WE HAD!
THE HAIR IS BURNED... CHARRED BLACK!
6

WAIT, DICK! HOW ABOUT TRYING OUT THAT NEW CHEMICAL FORMULA YOU'VE BEEN DEVELOPING? EXPERIMENTING WITH?
YOU MEAN THE FORMULA THAT RESTORES THE ORIGINAL COLOR TO BURNED FIBRES? SURE--THAT SHOULD DO IT!
BUT AFTER THE CHEMICAL IS APPLIED...
HUH? THE HAIR TURNED GREEN! GOSH, I MUST'VE MADE A MISTAKE IN THE FORMULA! AND NOW I'VE RUINED EVERYTHING!
WELL, DON'T FEEL TOO BADLY, DICK... WE MAY GET ANOTHER BREAK SOON!
LATER, WHEN BRUCE RETURNS TO THE CAMPUS--AS BATMAN...
TOO BAD ABOUT ROBIN'S HAND, BATMAN!
IT'LL BE AS GOOD AS NEW IN A MONTH! I--HOLD IT, JIMMY! THERE--IN YOUR ROOM--THE RED HOOD!
BUT AS HE LUNGES AT THE FIGURE...
WHY, IT'S PAUL WONG!
SURE... HA, HA! HE'S NOT THE RED HOOD! HE WAS ONLY WEARING A REPLICA! WE FINISHED IT TODAY!
WE'VE JUST FIGURED OUT HOW THE RED HOOD IS ABLE TO SEE THROUGH HIS HEADPIECE!
THE ANSWER IS A TWO-WAY MIRROR! THE TYPE OF MIRROR THAT REFLECTS ON ONE SIDE BUT IS TRANSPARENT ON THE REVERSE SIDE!
GET IT? HE OBVIOUSLY SET A PAIR OF RED TWO-WAY MIRRORS IN THE HOOD, WHERE HIS EYES COULD SEE THROUGH THEM! NATURALLY, THE SHINY MIRRORS BLENDED WITH THE SHINY METAL SO THAT HIS HOOD SEEMED TO BE ONE BLANK PIECE OF METAL!
7

BUT THE HEAD-PIECE ALSO HAS ANOTHER USE! THE REASON HE BURST THOSE AMMONIA PIPES, AND SURVIVED THAT CHEMICAL BATH IS BECAUSE IT'S ALSO A GAS MASK AND DIVING HELMET!
SO HE DID ESCAPE BEFORE THROUGH THE SCHOOL GAS MAIN!
SNAP!
RIGHT--AND I'LL BET THE RED HOOD'S ORIGINAL PLAN WAS TO STEAL EXACTLY $1,000,000, THEN RETIRE--WHICH HE DID!
BUT, JIMMY.. WHY, THEN, DID DID HE COME OUT OF RETIREMENT AFTER TEN YEARS?
PROBABLY TO DEFY US... TO MAKE US A LAUGHING STOCK BECAUSE WE REOPENED THE CASE! AND SINCE HE WAS STOPPED THIS TIME, HE'LL RETURN... AND WHEN HE DOES, WE'LL GET HIM AND UNMASK HIM!
HOURS LATER, AS SPOTTERS -- EQUIPPED WITH WALKIE-TALKIES -- NOTICE A FIGURE STEALING THROUGH THE CAMPUS...
CALLING BATMAN! RED HOOD MOVING TOWARD UNIVERSITY MUSEUM!
CALLING BATMAN! RED HOOD HAS JUST PASSED ALPHA BETA FRATERNITY HOUSE!
INSTANTLY, THE FAMED BATMOBILE THUNDERS IN PURSUIT...
I'LL TAKE A SHORT-CUT ACROSS THE SCHOOL'S FOOT-BALL FIELD!
THIS THING'S MADE OF SOLID GOLD! I'LL MELT IT DOWN AN'-- HUH?? BATMAN!
SOON, IN THE COLLEGE MUSEUM'S MAYAN EXHIBIT...
HERE'S WHERE I MELT YOU DOWN A LITTLE, MR. RED HOOD!
8

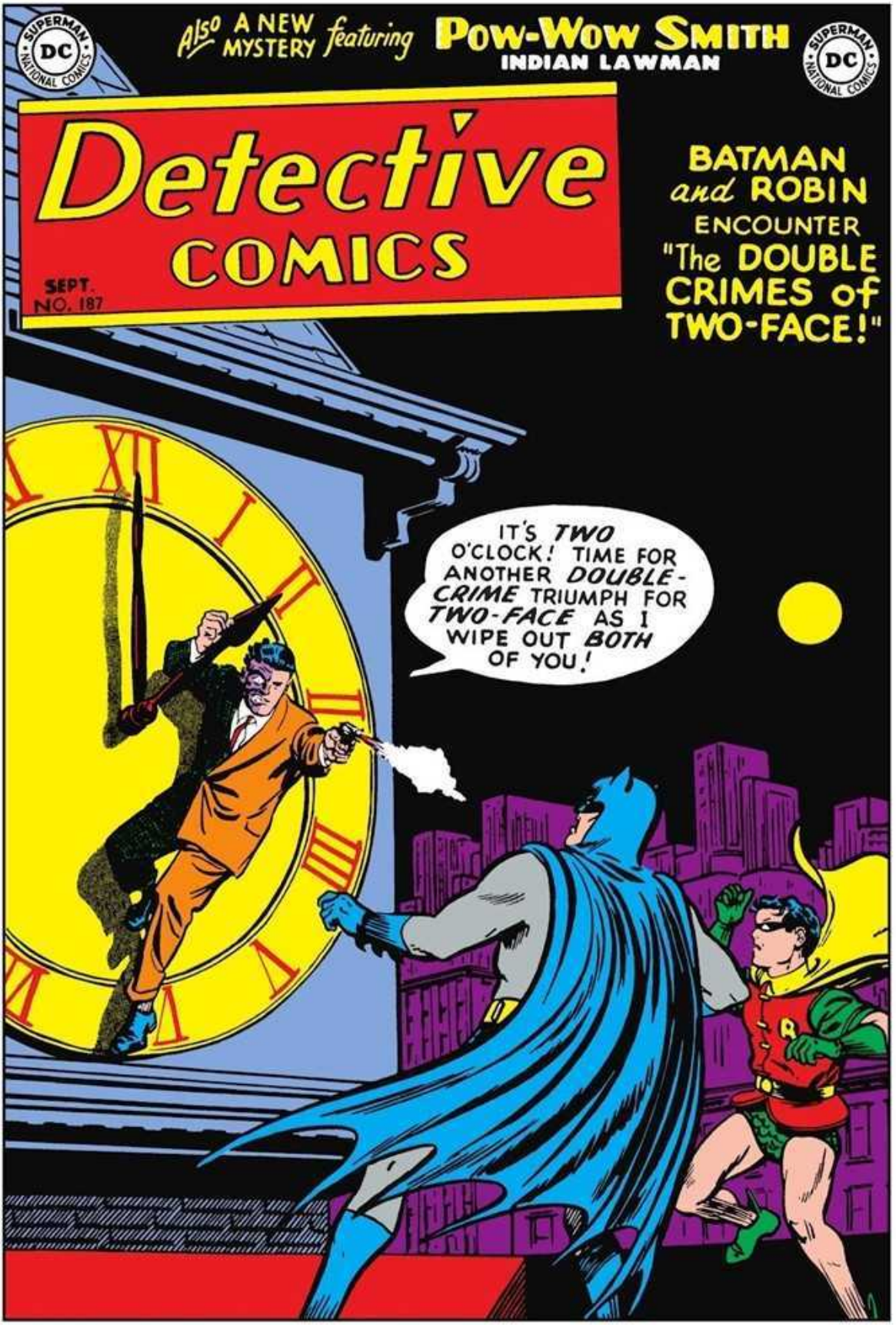
BUT...
HA,HA! AIN'T I THE MEAN ONE, THOUGH!
CRASH
WOW! THAT WAS CLOSE!
AND AS THE STUDENTS BURST IN...
WARNING • DANGER GAS JETS IN OPERATION DO NOT ENTER!
OH-OH! NOT THROUGH THERE!
WAIT A MINUTE... THAT'S THE ROOM USED TO DISINFECT NEWLY-ARRIVED EXHIBITS... BUT WHY SHOULD HE BE AFRAID TO ENTER?
MUST HEAD HIM OFF OUTSIDE...
SMASH
MINUTES LATER, AS THE PURSUERS SCOUT THE CAMPUS...
I'M ALMOST POSITIVE I SAW HIM RUN THROUGH HERE!
LOOK! BATMAN'S GOT HIM!
WHY, HE'S ONE OF THE SCHOOL GARDENERS!
WHAT'S THE IDEA O' DUMPIN' ME? YOU GUYS NUTS OR SOMETHIN'?
HOLD IT... I REMEMBER THAT FACE! YOU'RE EARL "FARMERBOY" BENSON, AGE 22 -- EIGHT ARRESTS -- RELEASED FROM JAIL SIX MONTHS AGO!
YEAH, YEAH, THAT'S ME... BUT I'M GOIN' STRAIGHT NOW!
9

MAYBE.' HE WOULD'VE HAD TIME TO HIDE HIS RED HOOD OUTFIT BEFORE BATMAN TACKLED HIM.'
BUT BENSON IS ONLY 22 YEARS OLD.' TEN YEARS AGO, HE'D HAVE BEEN A KID OF 12.' SO HE COULDN'T POSSIBLY BE THE RED HOOD.'
GOSH, THAT'S RIGHT.' AND THE RED HOOD IS WELL EDUCATED, KNOWS SCIENCE AND PROBABLY HAS PLENTY LEFT FROM THAT MILLION HE STOLE.' BENSON'S ALMOST ILLITERATE AND WORKS AT A POOR PAYING JOB.'
OKAY, FARMER-BOY, YOU CAN LEAVE.' I GUESS YOU COULDN'T BE THE RED HOOD.'
LATER, BATMAN HOLDS A SECRET CONFERENCE WITH DEAN CHALMERS...
CERTAINLY I'LL COOPERATE, BATMAN, BUT THE RED HOOD IS CUNNING.' ARE YOU SURE HE'LL BITE AT SUCH AN OBVIOUS BAIT?
IF MY THEORY'S CORRECT, THE MAN WE WANT IS DUMB ENOUGH TO SWALLOW IT.'
NEXT DAY, WITH THE DEAN'S PERMISSION, A FALSE STORY APPEARS IN THE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER...
STATE U TATLER
VALUABLE TROPHY EXHIBITED IN GYMNASIUM
GOLD FOOTBALL TROPHY ON LOAN FROM BAYVIEW TECH
AND AT 3 A.M., OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL GYM...
AH...THE GUARD'S SNORING HIS HEAD OFF.' HE WON'T EVEN HEAR ME WORKING THIS GLASS CUTTER.'
DEFTLY, THE SHARP INSTRUMENT CARVES AN ENTRANCE FOR THE BURGLAR, BUT...
BATMAN.' A TRAP, EH? WELL, YOU AIN'T GETTIN' ME SO EASY--NOT BEFORE I SHOOT YOU AN' SOME O' YOUR COP-HAPPY PUPILS.'
I'VE PREPARED FOR THAT, TOO.' OKAY, ROBIN-- NOW.'
10

ABRUPTLY, SWITCHES CLICK-- AND BANKS OF RED LIGHT BULBS CAST DOWN THEIR SCARLET BEAMS!
BLAM! BLAM!
WHA... I CAN'T SEE! I CAN'T SEE!
GOTTA GET OUTA HERE! WHERE'S THE DOOR? I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING! I'M BLIND -- BLIND! OOF!
BONK
NOW YOU CAN DROP THAT GUN!
I'M BLIND-- BLIND!
NO YOU'RE NOT! YOUR RED LENSES PLUS RED LIGHT BULBS MADE EVERYTHING BLEND INTO A WALL OF RED... SO NATURALLY YOU COULDN'T SEE!
AND AS WHITE LIGHT FLASHES ON, ITS MERCILESS GLARE REVEALS THE FACE OF THE BATMAN'S CAPTIVE!
FARMERBOY BENSON!
BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! WE HAD IT ALL FIGURED OUT... HE COULDN'T BE THE RED HOOD!
AND YOU WERE RIGHT, PAUL -- HE'S NOT THE RED HOOD! HE'S ONLY AN IMPERSONATOR! ALL RIGHT, BENSON, WHERE'D YOU HIDE THE REAL RED HOOD?
YOU WIN, BATMAN! HE'S LOCKED IN THE TOOL SHED!
11

BUT... BUT... WAS THE REAL RED HOOD EVER ON THE CAMPUS AT ALL?
YES--IT WAS THE REAL RED HOOD WHO TRIED TO ROB THE SCHOOL PAYROLL! HE ESCAPED BY THE SCHOOL GAS MAIN... REMEMBER? THAT'S WHEN BENSON TOOK OVER!
YEAH--I SPOTTED HIM LEAVIN' THE GAS MAIN, SO I SURPRISED HIM AND TIED HIM UP, FIGURIN' ON A REWARD! BUT THEN, I REALIZED I COULD WEAR HIS HELMET, COMMIT CRIMES AND LET HIM BE BLAMED FOR 'EM!
BUT, BATMAN... THE HOOD MASKED BENSON! HOW'D YOU KNOW IT WAS HIM?
I OBSERVED AND DEDUCED! REMEMBER HOW HE AVOIDED ENTERING THE GAS-FILLED CHAMBER IN THE MUSEUM? FROM THAT OBSERVATION, I COULD DEDUCE ONLY ONE POSSIBLE ANSWER--THAT THE MAN WEARING THE HOOD, THEN, DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS ALSO WEARING A GAS MASK... THEREFORE, HE WAS NOT THE REAL RED HOOD!
OBSERVATION AND DEDUCTION! REMEMBER, I TOLD YOU IN CLASS THAT THEY WERE THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECTS IN CRIME-FIGHTING!
THAT'S ONE LESSON WE'LL NEVER FORGET, PROFESSOR!
AND HOW!
OH, BY THE WAY... I MEANT TO TELL YOU, ROBIN--YOU DIDN'T MAKE A MISTAKE IN THAT CHEMICAL FORMULA! AND THAT'S WHY I KNOW THE IDENTITY OF THE REAL RED HOOD!
WHAT?
THE SHED'S DARK! I CAN'T MAKE OUT THE MAN'S FACE, BUT I CAN SEE HE'S GAGGED!
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME--TEN YEARS! OKAY, JIMMY--LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THE FACE OF THE RED HOOD!
12

AND AS THEY REMOVE THE RED HOOD'S GAG, THE GROUP STARES AWESTRUCK--FOR THERE, UNDER THE LIGHT'S REVEALING RAYS, SITS THE EVIL, GRINNING FACE OF...
THE JOKER!
HA, HA! YES, BATMAN, THAT'S THE ONE SECRET I'VE KEPT FROM YOU ALL THESE YEARS! HA, HA, HA!
YES, IT'S TRUE! YOU SEE, YEARS AGO MY SKIN COLORING WAS NORMAL. JUST LIKE YOURS! I WAS A LAB WORKER, UNTIL I DECIDED TO STEAL $1,000,000 AND RETIRE! SO I BECAME THE RED HOOD!
"FINALLY, I REACHED MY GOAL--BY STEALING FROM THE MONARCH PLAYING CARD COMPANY! MY HOOD'S OXYGEN TUBE ENABLED ME TO ESCAPE BY SWIMMING UNDER THE SURFACE OF THE POOL OF CHEMICAL WASTES..."
"BUT AT HOME I LOOKED AT MYSELF WITH GROWING HORROR..."
THAT CHEMICAL VAPOR--IT TURNED MY HAIR GREEN, MY LIPS ROUGE-RED, MY SKIN CHALK-WHITE! I LOOK LIKE AN EVIL CLOWN! WHAT A JOKE ON ME!
"THEN, I REALIZED MY NEW FACE COULD TERRIFY PEOPLE! AND BECAUSE THE PLAYING CARD COMPANY MADE MY NEW FACE I NAMED MYSELF AFTER THE CARD WITH THE FACE OF A CLOWN--THE JOKER!"
HA! HA! HA! HA!
JOKER
AND ALL THESE YEARS I'VE BEEN LAUGING AT YOU! HA, HA! YOU NEVER EVEN KNEW MY IDENTITY TILL NOW!
HA! HA! HA! HA!
YOU'RE WRONG, JOKER... I KNEW YOUR IDENTITY BEFORE WE OPENED THE SHACK! ROBIN AND A GREEN HAIR CAN VOUCH FOR THAT! SO YOU SEE, THE JOKE'S BEEN ON YOU ALL ALONG!
HA, HA... THAT'S RIGHT, JOKER...NOW IT'S OUR TURN TO LAUGH! HA, HA!
THE END
13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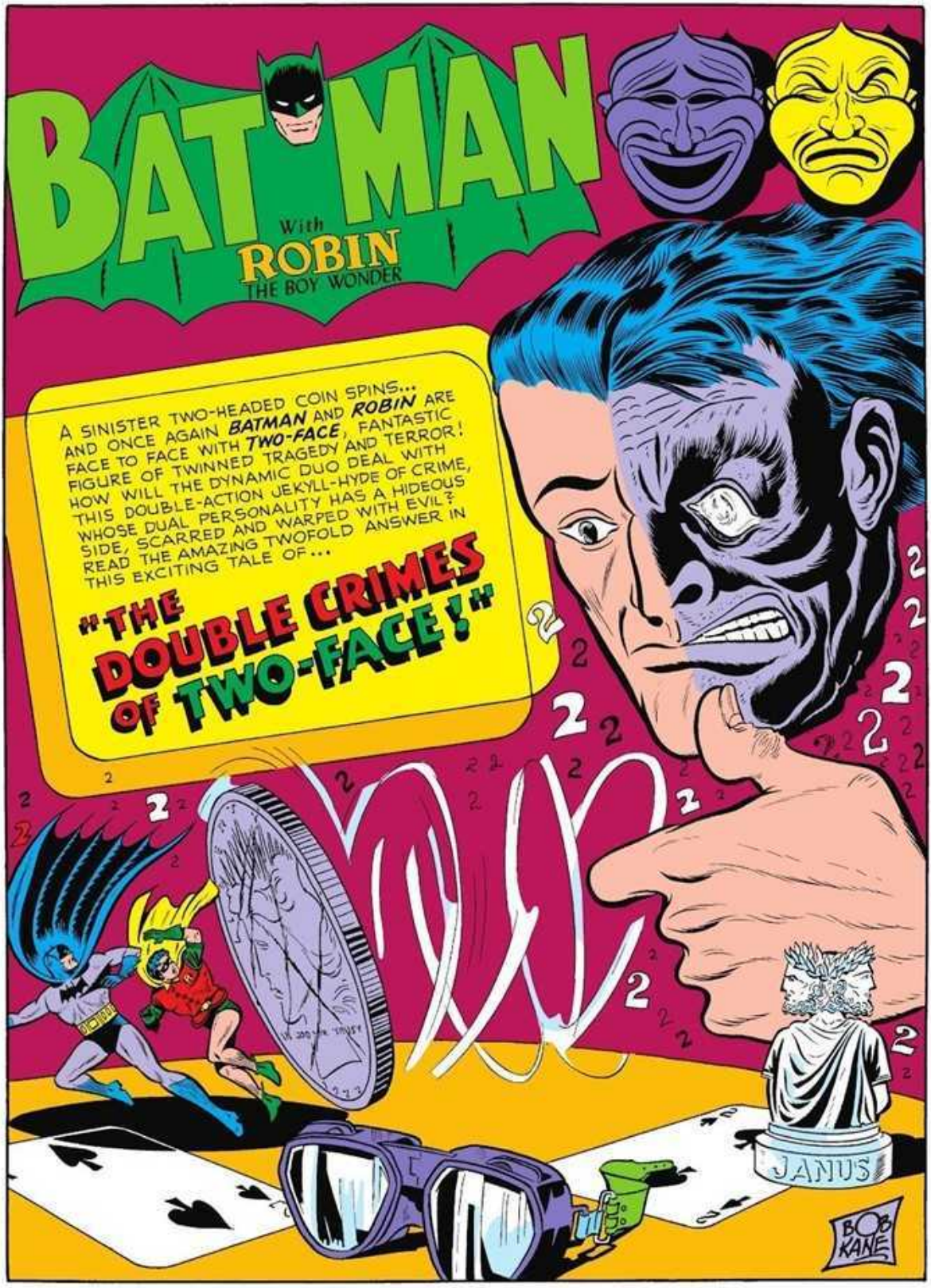
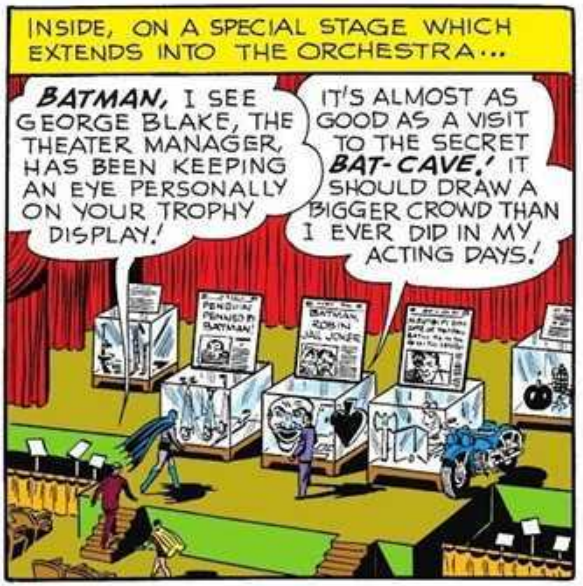
Detective COMICS
SEPT. NO. 187
BATMAN and ROBIN ENCOUNTER "The DOUBLE CRIMES of TWO-FACE!"
IT'S TWO O'CLOCK! TIME FOR ANOTHER DOUBLE-CRIME TRIUMPH FOR TWO-FACE AS I WIPE OUT BOTH OF YOU!


BATMAN
With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER
A SINISTER TWO-HEADED COIN SPINS... AND ONCE AGAIN BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE FACE TO FACE WITH TWO-FACE, FANTASTIC FIGURE OF TWINNED TRAGEDY AND TERROR! HOW WILL THE DYNAMIC DUO DEAL WITH THIS DOUBLE-ACTION JEKYLL-HYDE OF CRIME, WHOSE DUAL PERSONALITY HAS A HIDEOUS SIDE, SCARRED AND WARPED WITH EVIL? READ THE AMAZING TWOFOLD ANSWER IN THIS EXCITING TALE OF...
"THE DOUBLE CRIMES OF TWO-FACE!"
JANUS
BOB KANE

ONE DAY IN GOTHAM CITY, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, PREPARE TO TAKE LEADING ROLES IN A UNIQUE DRAMATIC EVENT AT THE CITY'S LARGEST THEATER...
THIS SHOULD OPEN THE EYES OF THOUSANDS TO THE NEED FOR SUPPORTING THE LAW AND ITS OFFICERS, BATMAN--THANKS TO YOU AND ROBIN!
NO THANKS NECESSARY, COMMISSIONER GORDON! CRUSADING AGAINST CRIME IS OUR JOB!
LAW & ORDER COMMITTEE PRESENTS
CRUSADE AGAINST CRIME
BIG FREE PROGRAM STARRING
BATMAN and ROBIN
WITH EXHIBITION OF TROPHIES
OF THEIR TRIUMPHS OVER MASTER CRIMINALS
BATMAN AND ROBIN AGAINST CRIME!


INSIDE, ON A SPECIAL STAGE WHICH EXTENDS INTO THE ORCHESTRA...
BATMAN, I SEE GEORGE BLAKE, THE THEATER MANAGER, HAS BEEN KEEPING AN EYE PERSONALLY ON YOUR TROPHY DISPLAY!
IT'S ALMOST AS GOOD AS A VISIT TO THE SECRET BAT-CAVE! IT SHOULD DRAW A BIGGER CROWD THAN I EVER DID IN MY ACTING DAYS!

A LOT OF ACTION--AND NOT ALL OF IT FUN--WENT INTO THE GATHERING OF THOSE TROPHIES!
THEY'D DRAW A BIGGER CROWD IF THE JOKER AND THE PENGUIN COULD BE EXCUSED FROM PRISON TO APPEAR PERSONALLY--HEAVEN FORBID!
Gotham Gazette
PENGUIN PENNED BY BATMAN!
Gotham Gazette
BATMAN, ROBIN JAIL JOKER!

HERE'S ONE WHO WILL APPEAR, THOUGH, TWO-FACE--THE WEIRDEST AND MOST DANGEROUS OF THEM ALL!
THANK GOODNESS HE'S ON OUR SIDE NOW, AS SOLIDLY AS BEFORE HIS TRAGEDY, WHEN HE WAS HARVEY DENT, FIGHTING DISTRICT ATTORNEY!

A MOMENT LATER...
ADMIRING THAT PORTRAIT, BATMAN? IT GIVES ME THE SHUDDERS!
HARVEY DENT--HANDSOMER THAN EVER! NOBODY WOULD EVER GUESS YOU WERE ONCE IN THAT PICTURE!

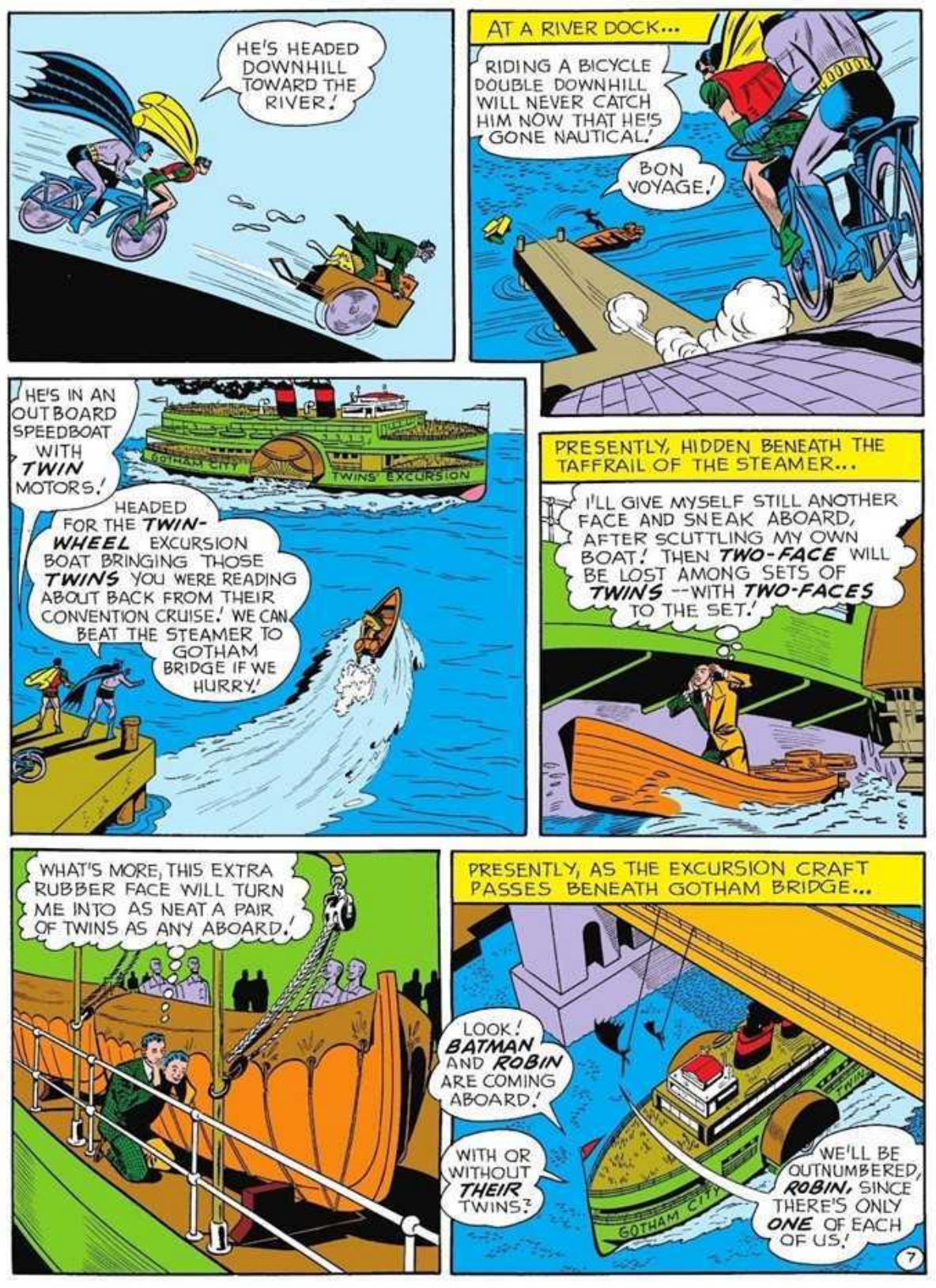
YOU'VE GOT COURAGE, HARVEY, COMING HERE TO IMPERSONATE TWO-FACE, YOUR OLD SELF, TO HELP MAKE THIS ANTI-CRIME EXHIBIT INTERESTING. I KNOW YOU WON'T ENJOY REMEMBERING!
AFTER WHAT HAPPENED, I OWE SOCIETY ANY REPAYMENT I CAN MAKE! AND I CAN'T HELP REMEMBERING, ANYWAY! IT OFTEN COMES BACK TO ME, LIKE A FOG OF HORROR, IN DREAMS...

"I THINK I'M BACK IN THAT COURTROOM, PROSECUTING 'LUCKY' MORONY, GOTHAM CITY'S MOST NOTORIOUS GAMBLER, FOR MURDER..."
YOUR HONOR, THIS WAS FOUND ON THE SCENE OF THE CRIME: A TWO-HEADED SILVER DOLLAR. LUCKY MORONY'S GOOD LUCK PIECE!
"AND SUDDENLY, WITHOUT WARNING..."
I'LL FIX YOU, PRETTY BOY!..
LOOK OUT! HE'S THROWING ACID!
AGHHH! MY FACE!
MY CAREER--MY LIFE--RUINED! PEOPLE WILL SHRINK FROM ME, FEAR ME! I'LL BE LIKE A JEKYLL-HYDE--A FIGURE HALF EVIL! I MIGHT AS WELL LIVE UP TO IT!
AND I WILL! MORONY'S SILVER DOLLAR WILL BE MY SYMBOL! IT HAS TWO FACES, CLEAN AND HANDSOME AS MY FACE ONCE WAS! BUT I'LL SCAR ONE SIDE, MAKE IT EVIL AND UGLY LIKE MY DISFIGURED SIDE. I'LL WEAR CLOTHES THAT ARE SHABBY AND UGLY ON ONE SIDE, AND GOOD ON THE OTHER! I'LL BE KNOWN AS TWO-FACE!
AS DENT CUTS SHORT HIS GRIM RECITAL...
AND THAT'S THE VERY TWO-HEADED COIN HE USED TO CHOOSE BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL DEEDS! LET HIM USE IT TODAY--BATMAN--FOR THE SAKE OF REALISM!
ALL RIGHT! I DON'T IMAGINE IT HOLDS ANY SUPERSTITIOUS POWER OVER HIM NOW! SHOW HIM TO THE DRESSING ROOM, BLAKE, AND HELP HIM MAKE UP FOR HIS PUBLIC APPEARANCE! YOU CAN USE THIS PICTURE AS A MODEL!
IN THE DRESSING ROOM...
NOT WORRIED, ARE YOU, DENT?
NOT EXACTLY, BLAKE! BUT WHEN I LOOK AT MYSELF IN A FEW MINUTES, AND SEE MY FACE HORRIBLY DISFIGURED, IT WILL REMIND ME OF THE FIRST TERRIBLE TIME IT HAPPENED! I MERELY WANT TO STEEL MYSELF FOR THE SHOCK!
ATE OF TWO-FACE
BATMAN HOPES FOR CURE BY PLASTIC OPERATION
NOT TOO LONG AGO, EXACTLY SUCH A SHOCK MADE TWO-FACE A JEKYLL-HYDE OF CRIME!
COULD IT POSSIBLY HAPPEN THIS TIME--?

AN HOUR LATER, WHEN THE THEATER HAS FILLED WITH PEOPLE...
AND NOW YOU CAN HEAR FROM HIS OWN LIPS THE AMAZING STORY OF TWO-FACE -- A RARE CRIME STORY WITH AN ENDING HAPPIER THAN MOST!
AS THE SPEAKER BEGINS, WITH A TOSS OF THE FATEFUL TWO-HEADED COIN...
THERE WERE TWO SIDES OF ME, GOOD AND EVIL, AS IN EVERY MAN! BUT SHOCKED AND WARPED THINKING HAD BROUGHT THE EVIL SIDE SO CLOSE TO THE SURFACE, IT WOULD EMERGE AT THE BIDDING OF A GAMBLER'S DOUBLE-HEADED SILVER DOLLAR, SCARRED ON ONE SIDE -- THUS!
IF THE CLEAN SIDE CAME UP, THERE'D BE NO CRIME! BUT IF THE SCARRED SIDE CAME UP -- THE EVIL SIDE -- SCARRED -- EVIL -- EVIL --
OHHHH! THAT FACE! AND HIS CLOTHES -- ALL THE OTHER SIDE OF HIM -- LIKE ANOTHER HORRIBLE PERSON!
WHAT STRANGE TRANSFORMATION IS CREEPING OVER THIS MAN AS HE STARES AT THE MARRED METAL THAT ONCE DEMANDED CRIME?
SUDDENLY...
DENT! WHAT--?
CRIME WINS! TIME FOR TWO-FACE TO TWO-TIME THE LAW AGAIN -- WITHOUT THE DOUBLE THREAT OF BATMAN AND ROBIN TO WORRY ABOUT!
WITH A TWO-EDGED HATCHET TO CLEAR THE WAY, AND MY OLD TWIN-CYLINDER MOTORCYCLE, I'LL START A CAREER TWICE AS DESPERATE AS IN THE OLD DAYS! HA, HA, HA!
NO, TWO-FACE! WAIT! PLEASE LISTEN TO ME!
BUT BATMAN'S PLEAS ARE DROWNED IN THE MOTOR'S ROAR AND THE CROWD SCREAMS AS TWO-FACE RIDES FORTH ON THE CRIME TRAIL AGAIN!...
I'D GIVE ANYTHING IF THIS HADN'T HAPPENED!
LOOK OUT FOR DOUBLE TROUBLE!
CAREFUL! THE FELLOW'S A MANIAC!
EXIT
4

WHEN THE FIRST EXCITEMENT HAS SUBSIDED...
FINE FINISH FOR OUR ANTI-CRIME SHOW! I'VE GOT ALL AVAILABLE MEN ON THE JOB--BUT I'M COUNTING MOSTLY ON YOU TO PREVENT ANOTHER FLOOD OF TWO-FACE CRIMES!
HMM... HE COPIED THE SCAR EXACTLY AS IT SHOWS IN THIS PHOTO!
LATER, IN THE BAT-CAVE, CAMPAIGN PLANS ARE LAID WITH CARE...
THESE SEVERAL HUNDRED SETS OF IDENTICAL TWINS MIGHT INSPIRE TWO-FACE SOMEHOW!
GOTHAM CITY
2-LEVEL BRIDGE
2-IN-1 PAINT CO.
Gotham Gazette
TWINS CONVENTION TO BE CLIMAXED BY RIVER EXCURSION
PROBABLY! WE CAN'T OVERLOOK ANY TWO COMBINATIONS! NO TELLING WHERE HE'LL STRIKE--BUT WHEN HE DOES, YOU CAN BET IT WILL INVOLVE THE FIGURE 2 SOMEHOW!
WHERE AND WHEN WILL TWO-FACE STRIKE? EARLY NEXT MORNING, IN THE GARAGE HEADQUARTERS OF GOTHAM SIGHTSEEING TOURS, INC. ...
WELL, YOU'RE BACK SAFE WITH THE PAYROLL, MR. BROWN! WANT ME TO WAIT WHILE YOU COUNT IT?
NO NEED, CASSIDY! WITH NEW DOUBLE LOCKS ON THE DOORS, NOT EVEN TWO-FACE COULD GET IN BEFORE THE DRIVERS ARRIVE TO GET PAID!
BUT MOMENTS LATER...
WHAT--! A TWO-PRONGED SPEAR! IT--IT'S--
IT'S TWO-FACE --AND DON'T BOTHER COUNTING THE MONEY! I CAN COUNT IT MYSELF LATER!
THUD!
BETTER GET OUT ON THE DOUBLE QUICK, CHUM--BEFORE THE REST OF THESE GASOLINE DRUMS LET GO!
GREAT CAESAR! THAT'S THE END OF THE COMPANY!
GOTHAM TOURS
WHOOSH
NEXT SECOND, A DOUBLE-DECKED SIGHTSEEING BUS CAREENS INTO TRAFFIC, BEARING THE SCARRED OUTLAW AWAY FROM THE SCENE OF HIS CRIME...
HELP! ROBBERY! FIRE!
GOTHAM TOURS
HA, HA! THEFT AND FIRE -- A DOUBLE CRIME-- AND A TWO-STORY VEHICLE FOR MY ESCAPE! TWO-FACE WILL BE TWICE AS FEARED AS EVER BEFORE!
5

THAT AFTERNOON, AS BRUCE WAYNE LEAVES A BUSINESS CONFERENCE WITH HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...
LOOK, BRUCE! THERE'S A SHOP WE MISSED--LIKE WE MISSED THAT SIGHT-SEEING OUTFIT TWO-FACE RAIDED THIS MORNING!
AND THERE'S A FAMILIAR-LOOKING FELLOW WITH A TWO-WHEELER CART, FLIPPING A FAMILIAR-LOOKING COIN! TIME FOR US TO BECOME BATMAN AND ROBIN AGAIN!
DOUBLE-VUE LENS CO.
DOUBLE BARRELLED MICROSCOPES OPERA GLASSES
BINOCU BIFOCAL
AS THE COIN COMES TO REST, IN FULL VIEW OF THE DYNAMIC DUO...
CROOKED-SIDE UP--AND GOOD-SIDE DOWN AGAINST THAT MAN-HOLE COVER WITH A BANG!
WE'LL FLIP TWO-FACE THE SAME WAY! READY!?
PLINK!
BUT AS THE ACE CRIME FIGHTERS CHARGE...
ALL RIGHT, TWO-FACE--HUH--? MY EYES!
EH?... BATMAN AND ROBIN! A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES! AND SPEAKING OF SORE EYES, HERE'S SOMETHING TO MAKE YOU SEE TWICE AS MUCH!
AND A MOMENT LATER, TWO-FACE MAKES HIS THREAT GOOD, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN EACH SEE DOUBLE!
YOU'LL NEVER CATCH BOTH OF ME! HA, HA!
TWICE AS MUCH, HE SAID! THAT GAS EFFECTS THE OPTIC NERVES AND MAKES A PERSON SEE DOUBLE!
YOU'RE TELLING ME!
BLE-VUE ENS CO.
BINOCULARS BIFOCAL GLAS
WITHIN THE SHOP...
THAT'S RIGHT! RUN--BEFORE MY DOUBLE-HEADER BOMB EXPLODES!
WHICH DOOR'S THE REAL ONE?
SO LONG! GOT TO HURRY AWAY-- IN A TWO-WHEELED PUSHCART!
MY EYES ARE CLEARING UP! WE'LL CATCH HIM YET, BATMAN!
6


HE'S HEADED DOWNHILL TOWARD THE RIVER!
AT A RIVER DOCK...
RIDING A BICYCLE DOUBLE DOWNHILL WILL NEVER CATCH HIM NOW THAT HE'S GONE NAUTICAL!
BON VOYAGE!
HE'S IN AN OUTBOARD SPEEDBOAT WITH TWIN MOTORS!
GOTHAM CITY
TWINS' EXCURSION
HEADED FOR THE TWIN-WHEEL EXCURSION BOAT BRINGING THOSE TWINS YOU WERE READING ABOUT BACK FROM THEIR CONVENTION CRUISE! WE CAN BEAT THE STEAMER TO GOTHAM BRIDGE IF WE HURRY!
PRESENTLY, HIDDEN BENEATH THE TAFFRAIL OF THE STEAMER...
I'LL GIVE MYSELF STILL ANOTHER FACE AND SNEAK ABOARD, AFTER SCUTTLING MY OWN BOAT! THEN TWO-FACE WILL BE LOST AMONG SETS OF TWINS --WITH TWO-FACES TO THE SET!
WHAT'S MORE, THIS EXTRA RUBBER FACE WILL TURN ME INTO AS NEAT A PAIR OF TWINS AS ANY ABOARD!
PRESENTLY, AS THE EXCURSION CRAFT PASSES BENEATH GOTHAM BRIDGE...
LOOK! BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE COMING ABOARD!
WITH OR WITHOUT THEIR TWINS?
WE'LL BE OUTNUMBERED, ROBIN, SINCE THERE'S ONLY ONE OF EACH OF US!
GOTHAM CITY
7

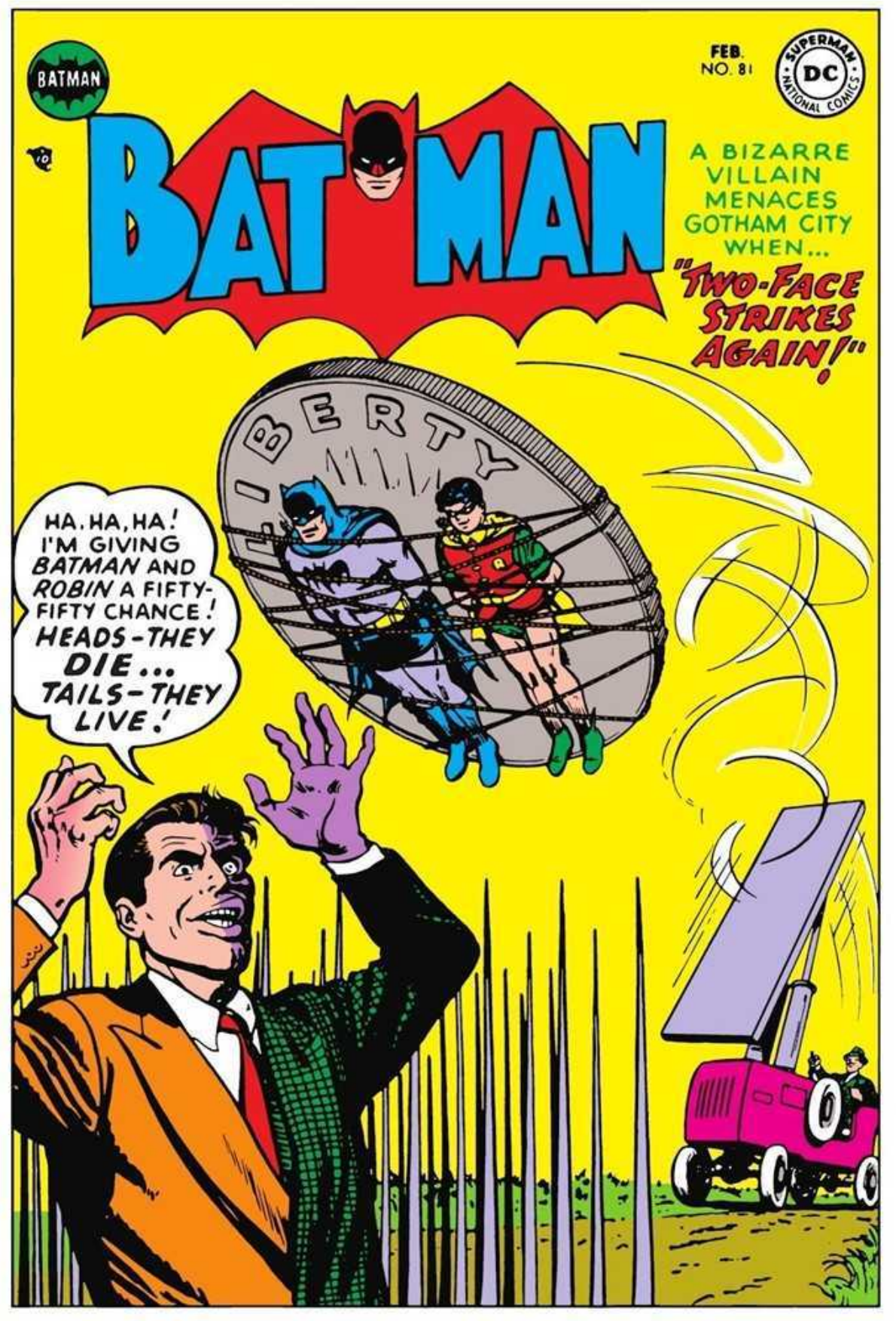
ABOARD THE TWIN-LADEN SIDE-WHEELER...
DID I SEE TWO-FACE? THERE ARE TWO OF ALL FACES ABOARD, EXCEPT YOURS! BUT IF YOU MEAN THE CRIMINAL WE READ ABOUT IN THE PAPERS--NEITHER MY BROTHER NOR I HAVE SEEN HIM, THANK GOODNESS.'
WE DIDN'T SEE HIM COME ABOARD, BUT WE'RE PRETTY SURE HE DID.'
AS THE STEAMER RETURNS TO ITS DOCK...
TWO-FACE MIGHT BE HIDING IN THE ENGINE ROOM.'
AS IF WE WEREN'T GOING TO SEARCH THERE--AND EVERYWHERE ELSE! BY THE WAY--THAT FELLOW SEEMS TO HAVE GOT SEPARATED FROM HIS TWIN.'
AS IT HAPPENS, A SEARCH OF THE VESSEL ISN'T NECESSARY, AFTER ALL, TO SHOW THE LAWMEN HOW THEY HAVE BEEN FOOLED.' SOON...
I JUST HAPPENED TO NOTICE IT.'
HIS TWIN BROTHER--A BALLOON.' DO YOU FEEL AS SILLY AS I DO, BATMAN?
TWICE AS SILLY, ROBIN.' HMM...FASTENED WITH SPIRIT GUM, SUCH AS ACTORS USE FOR MAKEUP.' WHICH REMINDS ME--TWO-FACE MUST HAVE TO RETOUCH THAT PAINTED SCAR PRETTY FREQUENTLY.'
BATMAN VISITS A DRUGSTORE--THEN MAKES ANOTHER INSPECTION OF THE DRESSING ROOM AT GOTHAM THEATER...
IT DOES LOOK AS IF TWO-FACE, OR SOMEBODY HAS USED THOSE GREASE-PAINTS SINCE WE SAW THEM LAST--BUT WHAT'S THE IDEA OF DOCTORING THEM WITH THAT CHEMICAL POWDER?
JUST AN IDEA.' WE'LL COME BACK HERE TONIGHT, AND I'LL EXPLAIN THEN--IF IT WORKS THE WAY I HOPE IT WILL.'
AND LATE THAT NIGHT...
AH-CHOO!
THE STOREROOM FOR THEATRICAL PROPS--A PERFECT HIDEOUT FOR ANYBODY.' WE'LL--WHAT'S THAT?
SOUNDS LIKE SOMEBODY SNEEZING--UP ON THE BALCONY.'
TAKE IT EASY.' ANYBODY HIDING UP HERE WITH A GUN COULD PICK US OFF LIKE SITTING DUCKS.'
EXCEPT I WON'T BE SITTING IF I SEE OR HEAR ANYTHING MOVE.'
8

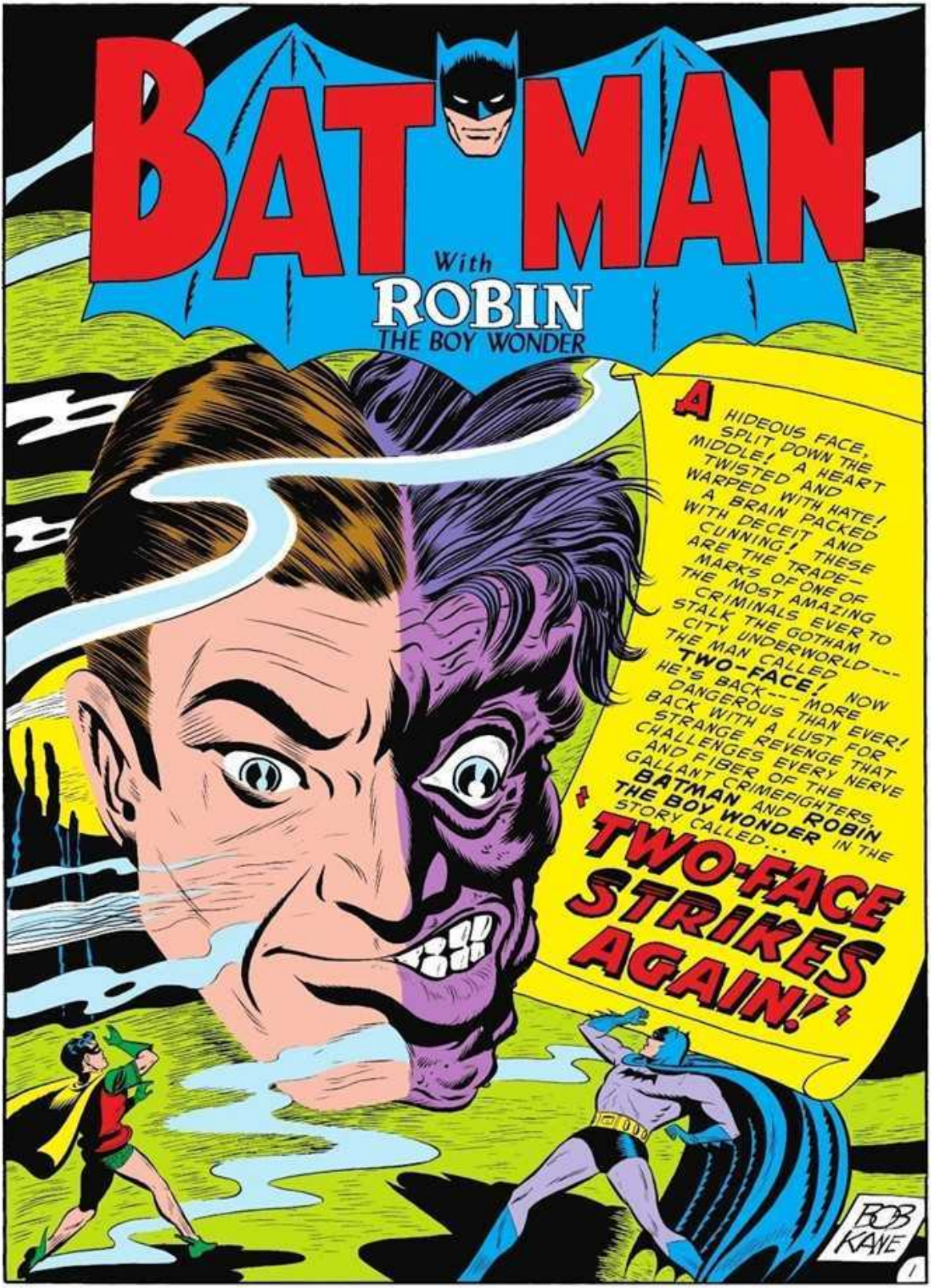
SUDDENLY...
WHAT--!
TWO-FACE!
CAUGHT YOU KNEE-DEEP IN SPONGE RUBBER BETWEEN TWO STATUES,' NEAT, EH? I KNEW YOU'D SHOW UP, SOONER OR LATER, SO MY TWO-HEADED LUCKY COIN COULD DECIDE WHETHER YOU LIVE OR DIE.'
THE TWO-FACED METAL DISC SPINS THROUGH THE AIR... BOUNCES ON THE FLOOR... ITS DISFIGURED SIDE AND ITS CLEAR ONE SHOWING ALTERNATELY...
GOOD SIDE, YOU GO FREE,' BAD SIDE, YOU VANISH FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH.' WHICH WILL IT BE?
WILL GOOD OR EVIL WIN THE FATEFUL TOSS?
THE GOOD SIDE WINS, I'M SORRY TO SAY! THIS TWO-EDGED PROP SWORD ISN'T SHARP, BUT YOU CAN PRY YOURSELVES LOOSE IN TEN MINUTES OR SO--WHICH WILL GIVE ME A HEAD START.'
THANKS.' BUT IT'S ONLY FAIR TO WARN YOU, YOU CAN NEVER GO FAST ENOUGH OR FAR ENOUGH TO ESCAPE.'
PLINK
THEN, AS TWO-FACE STARTS TO HASTEN AWAY...
YOU MAY HAVE CAUGHT TWO-FACE BEFORE, BUT NEVER AGAIN.' SO LONG.' ... OOPS.'
LOOK OUT!
SOUNDS LIKE HE KNOCKED HIMSELF OUT.'
WE'VE GOT TO MAKE THIS FAST.'
BAM! THUMP CRASH!
HELP!... AH-H-H...
AND THEN, MINUTES LATER, BATMAN AND ROBIN REACH THE FOOT OF THE STAIRS...
HE'S UNCONSCIOUS, BUT ALIVE.'
AND HE'S HARVEY DENT, ALL RIGHT.' CALL AN AMBULANCE, ROBIN --AND THE POLICE.'
OH-HH-H...
9

AS THE UNCONSCIOUS DENT IS TAKEN AWAY...
GO WITH THEM, ROBIN, AND CALL ME ON YOUR BELT RADIO IF DENT CAN TELL ANYTHING! AND, GORDON--YOU'D BETTER NOT ANNOUNCE THE CAPTURE OF TWO-FACE JUST YET.'
DON'T TELL ME YOU THINK DENT MAY BE INNOCENT.' GREAT SCOTT, BATMAN--WHY?
FOR ONE THING, THESE TWO-FACE CRIMES AREN'T IN CHARACTER WITH THE OLD ONES.' THE ORIGINAL TWO-FACE TRUSTED COMPLETELY IN HIS LUCKY COIN--BUT THE MAN WE'RE UP AGAINST USED TWO PHONEY ONES.'
ARE YOU SURE? DENT HAD ONLY THIS ONE COIN--THE GENUINE ONE.'
THE PHONEY ONES WERE MAGNETIZED ON ONE SIDE, AND CLUNG TO METAL WHEN THEY FELL.' THEY WERE OF TWO METALS, STEEL AND BRASS.' ONE LANDED BAD-SIDE UP, FOR CRIMES, AND THE OTHER GOOD-SIDE UP--SO ROBIN AND I WOULD "WIN" AND FIND DENT LYING HERE UNCONSCIOUS.'
IT WOULD HAVE FOOLED EVEN ME.'
THE ORIGINAL TWO-FACE STOLE, BUT WASN'T WANTONLY DESTRUCTIVE.' HE WOULDN'T HAVE BURNED OR BOMBED WITHOUT CAUSE.' AND THERE'S A BETTER REASON, WHICH I'LL TELL YOU LATER.'
FOR DENT'S SAKE, I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT--BUT I'LL HANG ONTO HIM, ANYWAY, TILL WE'RE SURE.'
WHAT IS THE "BETTER REASON" THAT MAKES BATMAN THINK A COUNTERFEIT TWO-FACE IS SCHEMING DIABOLICALLY TO SACRIFICE AN INNOCENT MAN FOR HIS CRIMES?
MINUTES LATER, IN THE GOTHAM THEATER OFFICES, HIGH ABOVE THE AUDITORIUM...
LIGHTS INSIDE, BUT NO ANSWER TO MY KNOCK--SO I'LL KNOCK HARDER, LIKE THIS.'
PRIVATE
CRASH!
THE FLIGHT OF A SHADOWY FIGURE ACROSS DARK ROOFTOPS BRINGS SWIFT PURSUIT...
THERE HE GOES.' BUT IF HE KEEPS RUNNING THAT WAY, HE'LL BE CORNERED IN A HURRY.'
10

SUDDENLY, THE CAPED LAWMAN FACES A SPINE-CHILLING CHALLENGE--FROM TWO-FACE, AT BAY ON A PERILOUS PERCH ATOP A TWO-FACED CLOCK.
ALL RIGHT, BATMAN, TIME FOR ONE OF US TO DIE. COME OUT HERE AND FIGHT-- IF YOU'RE NOT AFRAID.
I'M AFRAID YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE IT TOUGH FOR ME TO TAKE YOU IN ALIVE -- BUT YOU DON'T LEAVE ME MUCH CHOICE.
A DOUBLE LASH. YOU DODGE ONE PART, AND THE OTHER GETS YOU--AND WHIPS YOU RIGHT OFF INTO EMPTY SPACE.
THEN, AS BATMAN GRABS THE LEATHER THONG TO REGAIN HIS BALANCE, AND TWO-FACE JERKS AWAY INVOLUNTARILY...
LET GO. YIIII --NOW I'M FALLING. HELP.
SEEMS YOUR MURDEROUS LITTLE TRICK WORKS TWO WAYS. TRY TO GRAB THE HANDS OF THE CLOCK TO SAVE YOURSELF.
DESPERATELY, EACH CLAWS FOR A HOLD-- AND EACH CLINGS PRECARIOUSLY AGAINST A HUGE DIAL...
WHIRRRR CLACK!
OH, OH-- IT ALMOST SHOOK ME LOOSE AGAIN WHEN IT MOVED AHEAD A MINUTE. ARE YOU OKAY, TWO-FACE?
I'M STILL HERE-- BUT THERE'S NOTHING OKAY ABOUT BEING STRANDED HERE WITH NO CHANCE OF GETTING UP OR DOWN.
AS THE MIGHTY CLOCKWORK SHIFTS THE HANDS AGAIN, BATMAN MAKES A SUGGESTION...
A ROPE? I AGREE.
I'LL CLIMB FAST, AND DOUBLE-CROSS HIM BY CUTTING THE ROPE.
I'VE GOT A ROPE. IF YOU'LL AGREE TO A TRUCE, I'LL TOSS ONE END OVER, AND WE CAN CLIMB UP TOGETHER-- ONE OF US COUNTERBALANCING THE OTHER.
WHIRRR
I'M ALL SET. HURRY, BEFORE I LOSE MY BALANCE.
NOW'S THE TIME.
HERE GOES. STAND ON THE SHAFT AND BE READY TO GRAB WITH BOTH HANDS, SO YOU WON'T MISS.
11

LIGHT AS SILK AND STRONG AS STEEL, BATMAN'S ROPE SNAKES OVER THE HUGE CLOCK -- BUT AT THE VERY INSTANT TWO-FACE'S HANDS CLOSE ON IT...
LOOK SHARP! I'M THROWING THE WHOLE COIL, SO YOU CAN'T MISS!
CLACK!
GOT IT! ...OOPS! I'M FALLING!
AND AS THE HOUR STRIKES...
ONLY TO KEEP YOU FROM TRICKING ME, TWO-FACE! I KNEW THE COILS OF THE ROPE WOULD FALL OVER YOU, AND MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO MISS -- AND COULDN'T RESIST OUT-SMARTING TWO-FACE ON A TWO-FACED CLOCK AT 2 A.M.!
YOU TRICKED ME! YOU KNEW THE CLOCK'S HAND WOULD MOVE JUST AT THAT SECOND!
SHORTLY AFTER 2 O'CLOCK, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
SO GEORGE BLAKE, THE THEATER MANAGER, SLUGGED DENT IN THE DRESSING ROOM AND HELD HIM PRISONER WHILE HE PLAYED A PHONEY TWO-FACE ROLE!
RIGHT! BLAKE HAD MADE A DEAL WITH THE OWNERS OF THE SIGHTSEEING AND OPTICAL FIRMS, BOTH OF WHICH WERE LOSING MONEY! THEY WERE TO SPLIT THE LOOT AND INSURANCE, WHILE DENT TOOK THE BLAME!
BUT WHEN HE'D FINISHED, AND WE HAD DENT, WHY DIDN'T BLAKE GET RID OF THAT PAINTED SCAR? THEN HE COULD HAVE DENIED EVERYTHING!
I IMAGINE HE TRIED! BUT I'D DOCTORED THE PAINTS HE USED -- MADE THEM INDELIBLE, SO THAT THEY COULDN'T BE WASHED OFF. HE'LL STILL LOOK LIKE TWO-FACE WHEN HE FACES THE JURY -- EXCEPT FOR ONE THING...
THE SCAR'S ON HIS RIGHT CHEEK -- WHICH IS THE WRONG CHEEK -- BECAUSE HE FOLLOWED THE NEWSPAPER PICTURE, MADE FROM A REVERSED NEGATIVE! THAT'S ONE MISTAKE DENT COULDN'T HAVE MADE!
GREAT SCOTT -- I NEVER NOTICED! BUT YOU'RE RIGHT! THE LEFT SIDE OF TWO-FACE WAS THE BAD ONE ORIGINALLY! NO WONDER YOU WERE SURE DENT WAS INNOCENT!
AND IN THE HOSPITAL, WHERE HARVEY DENT IS RECOVERING RAPIDLY...
BLAKE WAS GOING TO HELP ME MAKE UP AS TWO-FACE -- AND THAT'S ALL I REMEMBER! WHAT HAPPENED, ANYWAY?
JUST A LITTLE DOUBLE-DEALING THAT NETTED A COUPLE OF NEW COINS FOR OUR TROPHY COLLECTION! SOON AS YOU'VE RESTED UP, WE'LL TELL YOU THE WHOLE STORY!
THE END
12


BATMAN
FEB.
NO. 81
SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
10
BATMAN
A BIZARRE VILLAIN MENACES GOTHAM CITY WHEN...
"TWO-FACE STRIKES AGAIN!"
LIBERTY
HA. HA, HA! I'M GIVING BATMAN AND ROBIN A FIFTY-FIFTY CHANCE! HEADS-THEY DIE... TAILS-THEY LIVE!


BAT MAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
A HIDEOUS FACE, SPLIT DOWN THE MIDDLE! A HEART TWISTED AND WARPED WITH HATE! A BRAIN PACKED WITH DECEIT AND CUNNING! THESE ARE THE TRADE-MARKS OF ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING CRIMINALS EVER TO STALK THE GOTHAM CITY UNDERWORLD--- THE MAN CALLED TWO-FACE! NOW HE'S BACK--- MORE DANGEROUS THAN EVER! BACK WITH A LUST FOR STRANGE REVENGE THAT CHALLENGES EVERY NERVE AND FIBER OF THE GALLANT CRIMEFIGHTERS, BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER IN THE STORY CALLED...
TWO-FACE STRIKES AGAIN!
BOB KANE

ONE EVENING, IN DOWNTOWN GOTHAM CITY...

LOOK, DEAR! THAT MAN PASSING US! THAT'S HARVEY DENT, THE LAWYER-- THE MAN ONCE KNOWN AS **TWO-FACE!** FUNNY, I WAS JUST READING HIS STRANGE STORY IN THIS MAGAZINE!

ALL MAGAZINES

HOW'S THAT FOR COINCIDENCE! I BUY A MAGAZINE WITH **TWO-FACE'S** STORY IN IT-- AND A MOMENT LATER, HE COMES WALKING BY IN THE FLESH!

THE STRANGE CAREER OF TWO-FACE

HARVEY DENT WITH HIS FACE RESTORED BY PLASTIC SURGERY

HARVEY DENT AS HE LOOKED AFTER THE ACCIDENT WHICH TURNED HIM INTO **TWO-FACE**, THE DESPERATE CRIMINAL

By Bob Kane

YES, HARVEY DENT IN THE FLESH---AND COMPLETELY UNAWARE OF THE TWIST OF FATE THAT LIES WAITING FOR HIM JUST MINUTES AWAY!

SAFE-CRACKERS AT WORK! THERE **WAS** A TIME-- WHEN I WAS **TWO-FACE**-- THAT I WOULD PASS A THING LIKE THIS RIGHT BY! BUT NO! AS A LAW-ABIDING CITIZEN, I MUST ACT!

TV SALES

Sale

AND SO, A MOMENT LATER...

ALL RIGHT, YOU TWO! STAND WHERE YOU ARE!

HE SCARED ME! BY ACCIDENT, I LIT THE EXPLOSIVE BEFORE THE CHARGE WAS SET! LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!

SO INTENT IS HE ON CAPTURING THE CROOKS, DENT FAILS TO HEED THE DANGER-SIGNS! ALL AT ONCE...

MY FACE! MY FACE! **OHHHH!**

BOOM!

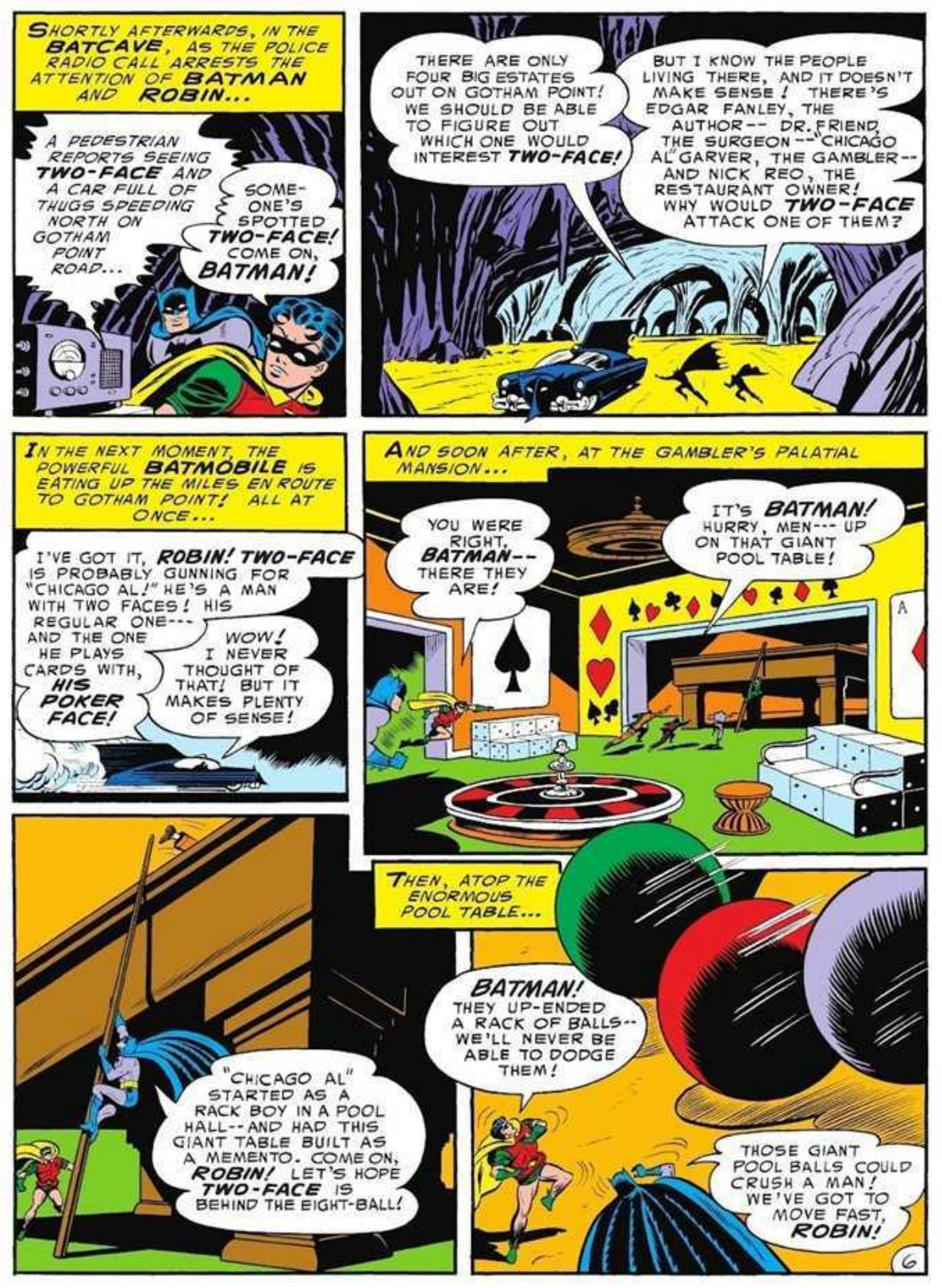
RUSHING BLINDLY OUT OF THE STORE, HIS FACE SEARED WITH PAIN, DENT HAILS A CAB WHICH TAKES HIM HOME. THEN, IN THE PRIVACY OF HIS BEDROOM...

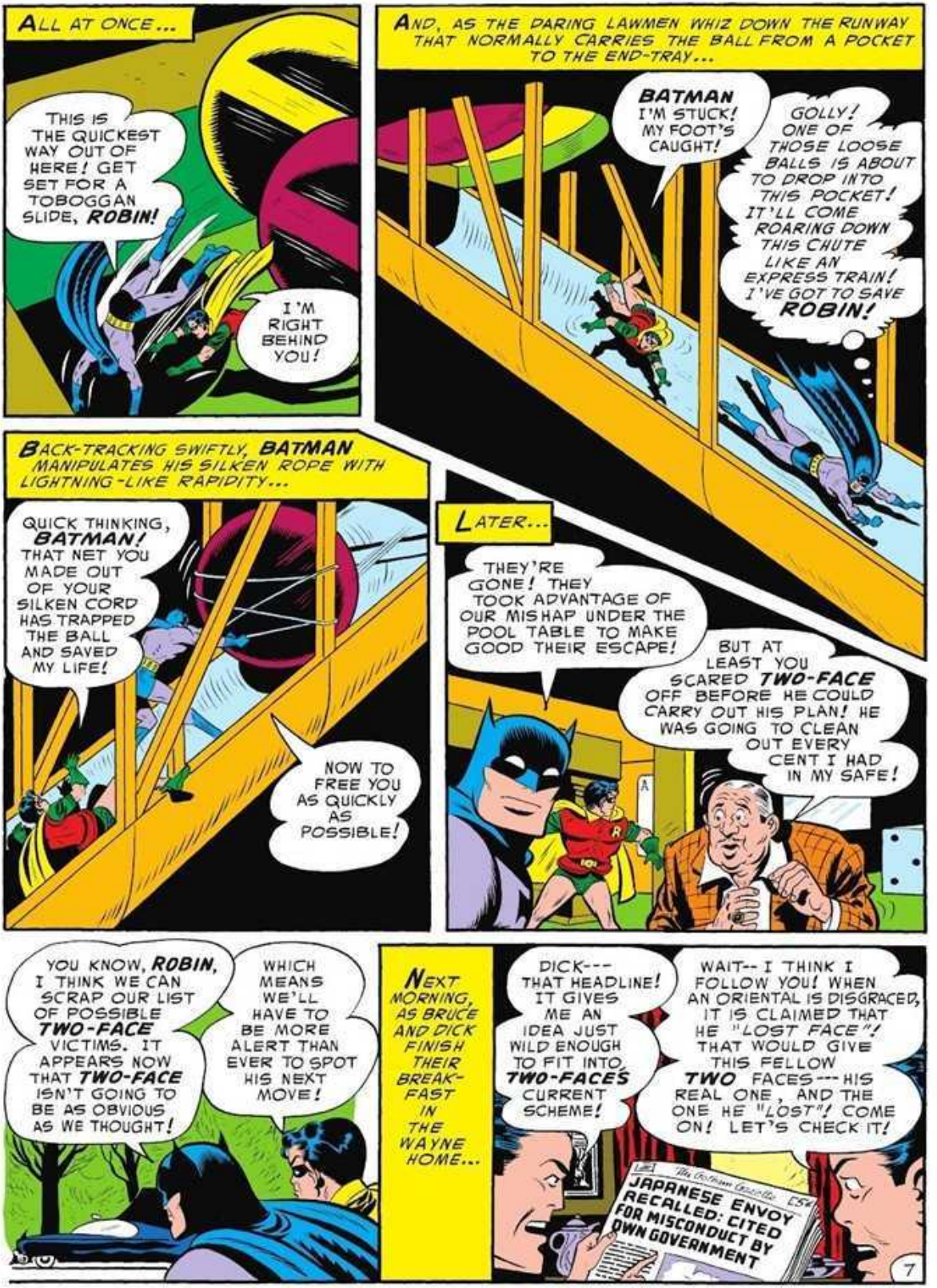
LOOK AT ME! THE EXPLOSION HAS UNDONE ALL MY PLASTIC SURGERY-- I HAVE BECOME **TWO-FACE!! TWO-FACE TWO-FACE!!**

AND NOW IT BECOMES CLEAR THAT MORE THAN DENT'S FACE HAS BEEN RE-INJURED! THE SCAR REACHES RIGHT THROUGH TO HIS BRAIN!
THIS SETTLES IT! THIS PROVES I WAS MEANT TO BE A CRIMINAL! FATE HAS DECREED IT! MY DOCTOR WARNED ME AGAINST ANY FUTURE ACCIDENTS--SAID PLASTIC SURGERY COULDN'T BE PERFORMED A SECOND TIME! I'M DOOMED TO LOOK THIS WAY FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!
ALL RIGHT! IF THAT'S THE WAY IT MUST BE, I'LL GIVE IT THE FINAL TEST! I HAD A DUPLICATE MADE OF MY FAMED TWO-FACED COIN, TO KEEP AS A MEMENTO! I'LL SOON SEE IF ITS DECISION CONCURS WITH THAT OF FATE!
ABRUPTLY, TWO-FACE FLIPS THE BIZARRE COIN INTO THE AIR, THEN, AS IT BOUNCES AND FINALLY SETTLES ON THE FLOOR--
SOON AFTER...
AHHH-- HERE IT IS! ONE FACE OF THE COIN MARRED--- THE EVIL FACE! IF THAT COMES UP WHEN I SPIN THE COIN--THEN BATMAN AND ROBIN BEWARE!
THE EVIL FACE UP! THE CRIMINAL CAREER OF TWO-FACE BEGINS AGAIN! AND I MUST THINK UP SOMETHING VERY SPECIAL TO FIT THE OCCASION!
NEXT EVENING AT THE GOTHAM CITY CIRCUS, THE AUDIENCE GETS AN UNEXPECTED SHOCK...
LOOK! IT'S TWO-FACE! HE'S BACK IN OUR MIDST!
STILL USING HIS PERSONAL SYMBOL, THE NUMBER TWO! SEE? TWO WHITE HORSES! HELP!
HE'S PROBABLY AFTER THE GATE RECEIPTS! CALL THE POLICE!
BUT THE SCARRED CRIMINAL DOES NOT ATTACK THE BOXOFFICE, AS EXPECTED! INSTEAD, HE BARGES INTO THE DRESSING-ROOM OF TARANDO, WORLD-FAMOUS CLOWN!
AHH! TARANDO, THE CLOWN! KNOWN TO KEEP A FABULOUS DIAMOND STICKPIN COLLECTION IN HIS DRESSING-ROOM! I'LL JUST TAKE THEM IF YOU DON'T MIND!
3

AN HOUR LATER, ABOARD THE YACHT, "SUPREME", DOCKED AT THE GOTHAM BOAT CLUB...
HOW FITTING MY NEXT CRIME SHOULD TAKE PLACE ABOARD A YACHT WITH A TWIN-SCREW PROPELLER ASSEMBLY! HA-HA!
IN THE NEXT MOMENT...
SO YOU'RE CHARLES FORD, THE MILLIONAIRE DEEP-SEA DIVER! AHHH--- AND THERE ARE THE GEMS FROM THE MANY BURIED TREASURES YOU FOUND ON THE OCEAN BOTTOM! A NICE HAUL, EH??? HA-HA!
TWO-FACE! HELP!
NEXT DAY AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN RESPOND TO AN URGENT SUMMONS SENT OUT BY COMMISSIONER GORDON...
BATMAN! ANOTHER TWO-FACE CRIME WAS JUST REPORTED! IN ADDITION TO THE TWO OF YESTERDAY, HE'S JUST ROBBED JOHN FIELDS BENSON, THE ACTOR!
BENSON! THE ACTOR FAMOUS FOR HIS PORTRAYALS OF ABE LINCOLN! COME ON, ROBIN! LET'S GET OVER TO HIS PLACE RIGHT AWAY!
SOON AFTER, IN THE ACTOR'S APARTMENT...
I'D JUST COME HOME AFTER THE MATINEE PERFORMANCE-- I DON'T BOTHER TO REMOVE MY MAKE-UP BETWEEN THE MATINEE AND EVENING SHOW-- WHEN TWO-FACE BURST IN UPON ME!
AND HE STOLE YOUR VALUABLE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN'S PAPERS! HMMM--- THIS IS NOT LIKE THE TWO-FACE OF OLD!
LATER, IN THE SECRET BATCAVE, AS THE FAMED LAWMEN REVERT TO THEIR EVERY-DAY ROLES AS SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...
TWO-FACE HAS COME BACK-- HOW, WHY, WE DON'T KNOW AS YET! BUT EVEN MORE PUZZLING ARE THE CRIMES HE'S COMMITTING! THERE'S NO PATTERN TO THEM!
MAYBE HE'S JUST MAD--- AND HE'S STRIKING WHEREVER HIS FANCY CARRIES HIM!
THEN...
NO, DICK! I'VE GOT IT! I'VE FOUND THE THREAD THAT BINDS THESE THREE CRIMES TOGETHER!
SNAP!
HOW ABOUT YOU??? ARE YOU AS CLEVER AS THE GREAT BATMAN? HAVE YOU CAUGHT ON TO TWO-FACE'S SCHEME?

SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, IN THE BATCAVE CRIME LAB...
YOU SEE, DICK?? ALL OF TWO-FACE'S LATEST VICTIMS HAD ONE THING IN COMMON-- IN A SENSE THEY TOO WERE MEN WITH TWO-FACES!
OF COURSE! SO THAT'S TWO-FACE'S NEWEST WRINKLE! HE'S APPARENTLY DECLARED WAR ON ALL THE OTHER TWO-FACES IN GOTHAM CITY!
TARANDO THE CLOWN WITHOUT MAKE-UP
CHAS. FORD AS HE REGULARLY APPEARS
ACTOR JOHN BENSON WITHOUT MAKE-UP
TARANDO THE CLOWN WITH MAKE-UP
CHAS. FORD, IN DEEP SEA DIVER'S HELMET
BENSON IN HIS LINCOLN MAKE-UP
NOW THAT WE KNOW HOW TWO-FACE IS WORKING, IT NARROWS THE FIELD OF POSSIBLE FUTURE VICTIMS! WE'LL COMPILE A LIST OF ALL PEOPLE WHO GO THROUGH LIFE WITH TWO FACES!
MEANWHILE, IN HIS HIDEOUT, THE BIZARRE JEKYLL-AND-HYDE CRIMINAL ENJOYS HIS INITIAL TRIUMPHS!
YES! I'M TAKING MY REVENGE ON ALL OTHERS WHOSE LIVES DEPEND ON TWO-FACES! AND NOW I'M READY TO ENLARGE MY OPERATION BY HIRING A GANG. IF YOU'RE READY, WE'LL PROCEED WITH THE INTERVIEWING!
LOOKIT THIS PLACE! EVERYTHING IN TWOS!
2
2
2
THEN, AS THE HOODLUM APPLICANTS LINE UP, EACH FINDS HIS CHANCE FOR A JOB HANGS ON THE TURN OF A COIN...
YOU'RE LUCKY! MY TWO-FACED COIN LANDED BAD SIDE UP! THAT MEANS YOU'RE HIRED AS PART OF MY GANG!
NEXT DAY, THE TWIN-TERRORED CRIMINAL IS READY TO STRIKE AGAIN!
AHHH! MY NEW TWO-TONE CAR! JUST THE THING TO CARRY US ON OUR NEXT JOB AGAINST A MAN WITH TWO FACES!
SAY! I JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHIN', BOSS! YOU KNOW WHO HAS TWO FACES? BATMAN!
OF COURSE! DON'T YOU THINK I KNEW THAT?? THE ATTACK AGAINST BATMAN WILL BE THE CLIMAX OF MY CRIME WAVE! BUT FIRST THINGS FIRST! OUR NEXT VICTIM WILL BE "CHICAGO AL" GARVER!
"CHICAGO AL"--- THE BIG-TIME GAMBLER?? I DON'T GET IT! SINCE WHEN DOES HE HAVE TWO FACES?
5


SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, IN THE BATCAVE, AS THE POLICE RADIO CALL ARRESTS THE ATTENTION OF BATMAN AND ROBIN...
A PEDESTRIAN REPORTS SEEING TWO-FACE AND A CAR FULL OF THUGS SPEEDING NORTH ON GOTHAM POINT ROAD...
SOMEONE'S SPOTTED TWO-FACE! COME ON, BATMAN!
THERE ARE ONLY FOUR BIG ESTATES OUT ON GOTHAM POINT! WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT WHICH ONE WOULD INTEREST TWO-FACE!
BUT I KNOW THE PEOPLE LIVING THERE, AND IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE! THERE'S EDGAR FANLEY, THE AUTHOR-- DR. FRIEND, THE SURGEON--"CHICAGO AL" GARVER, THE GAMBLER-- AND NICK REO, THE RESTAURANT OWNER! WHY WOULD TWO-FACE ATTACK ONE OF THEM?
IN THE NEXT MOMENT, THE POWERFUL BATMOBILE IS EATING UP THE MILES EN ROUTE TO GOTHAM POINT! ALL AT ONCE...
I'VE GOT IT, ROBIN! TWO-FACE IS PROBABLY GUNNING FOR "CHICAGO AL!" HE'S A MAN WITH TWO FACES! HIS REGULAR ONE--- AND THE ONE HE PLAYS CARDS WITH, HIS POKER FACE!
WOW! I NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT! BUT IT MAKES PLENTY OF SENSE!
AND SOON AFTER, AT THE GAMBLER'S PALATIAL MANSION...
YOU WERE RIGHT, BATMAN-- THERE THEY ARE!
IT'S BATMAN! HURRY, MEN--- UP ON THAT GIANT POOL TABLE!
"CHICAGO AL" STARTED AS A RACK BOY IN A POOL HALL--AND HAD THIS GIANT TABLE BUILT AS A MEMENTO. COME ON, ROBIN! LET'S HOPE TWO-FACE IS BEHIND THE EIGHT-BALL!
THEN, ATOP THE ENORMOUS POOL TABLE...
BATMAN! THEY UP-ENDED A RACK OF BALLS-- WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO DODGE THEM!
THOSE GIANT POOL BALLS COULD CRUSH A MAN! WE'VE GOT TO MOVE FAST, ROBIN!
6


ALL AT ONCE...
THIS IS THE QUICKEST WAY OUT OF HERE! GET SET FOR A TOBOGGAN SLIDE, ROBIN!
I'M RIGHT BEHIND YOU!
AND, AS THE DARING LAWMEN WHIZ DOWN THE RUNWAY THAT NORMALLY CARRIES THE BALL FROM A POCKET TO THE END-TRAY...
BATMAN I'M STUCK! MY FOOT'S CAUGHT!
GOLLY! ONE OF THOSE LOOSE BALLS IS ABOUT TO DROP INTO THIS POCKET! IT'LL COME ROARING DOWN THIS CHUTE LIKE AN EXPRESS TRAIN! I'VE GOT TO SAVE ROBIN!
BACK-TRACKING SWIFTLY, BATMAN MANIPULATES HIS SILKEN ROPE WITH LIGHTNING-LIKE RAPIDITY...
QUICK THINKING, BATMAN! THAT NET YOU MADE OUT OF YOUR SILKEN CORD HAS TRAPPED THE BALL AND SAVED MY LIFE!
NOW TO FREE YOU AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE!
LATER...
THEY'RE GONE! THEY TOOK ADVANTAGE OF OUR MISHAP UNDER THE POOL TABLE TO MAKE GOOD THEIR ESCAPE!
BUT AT LEAST YOU SCARED TWO-FACE OFF BEFORE HE COULD CARRY OUT HIS PLAN! HE WAS GOING TO CLEAN OUT EVERY CENT I HAD IN MY SAFE!
YOU KNOW, ROBIN, I THINK WE CAN SCRAP OUR LIST OF POSSIBLE TWO-FACE VICTIMS. IT APPEARS NOW THAT TWO-FACE ISN'T GOING TO BE AS OBVIOUS AS WE THOUGHT!
WHICH MEANS WE'LL HAVE TO BE MORE ALERT THAN EVER TO SPOT HIS NEXT MOVE!
NEXT MORNING, AS BRUCE AND DICK FINISH THEIR BREAK-FAST IN THE WAYNE HOME...
DICK--- THAT HEADLINE! IT GIVES ME AN IDEA JUST WILD ENOUGH TO FIT INTO TWO-FACE'S CURRENT SCHEME!
WAIT-- I THINK I FOLLOW YOU! WHEN AN ORIENTAL IS DISGRACED, IT IS CLAIMED THAT HE "LOST FACE"! THAT WOULD GIVE THIS FELLOW TWO FACES--- HIS REAL ONE, AND THE ONE HE "LOST"! COME ON! LET'S CHECK IT!
JAPANESE ENVOY RECALLED: CITED FOR MISCONDUCT BY OWN GOVERNMENT
7

AND AS THE LAWMEN RACE TO THE SUBURBAN HEADQUARTERS OF THE FOREIGN DIPLOMAT...
THEY WENT TO SOME EXPENSE TO ERECT THAT STATUE OF ONE OF THEIR NATIONAL HEROES!
WOW! SOME LANDMARK!
A MOMENT LATER...
NOW THAT WE'VE ROBBED OUR TWO-FACED DIPLOMAT, I'LL JUST LEAVE MY CALLING CARD-- BY MAKING THIS A TWO-FACED HERO! HA-HA!
ROBIN! LOOK!
SWIFTLY THE DARING DUO SCALES THE GIANT STATUE--- AND THEN A WEIRD BATTLE BEGINS!
BATMAN AGAIN! VERY CLEVER-- TRACING ME HERE! BUT NOW YOU'LL REGRET IT!
THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN, TWO-FACE!
ABRUPTLY...
BATMAN! THE PICK-AXE CUT MY ROPE! I'M FALLING!
HE'LL BE KILLED--- UNLESS I DO SOMETHING FAST!
THEN, WITH SWIFT-AS-LIGHTNING MOVES, BATMAN COILS ONE LEG AROUND HIS ROPE AND DIVES OFF AFTER ROBIN...
HURRY, ROBIN! THE OLD TRAPEZE ROUTINE! TWIST UP AND CLIMB OVER ME TO THE ROPE!
TENSE MOMENTS LATER...
MADE IT! OKAY, BATMAN-- GIVE ME YOUR ARM, AND I'LL YANK YOU UP!
RIGHT! I'LL SAY ONE THING--- IT'S LUCKY WE'VE MASTERED THESE CIRCUS ROUTINES!
8

SOON AFTER...
HE SLIPPED OUT OF OUR GRASP AGAIN! WHO KNOWS WHEN WE'LL GET ANOTHER SUCH OPPORTUNITY?
THAT'S JUST IT! WE'VE GOT TO MAKE OUR OPPORTUNITIES! IF THERE'S ONLY SOME WAY WE COULD DRAW HIM OUT OF HIDING...
THEN, LATE THAT EVENING...
SAY--- I JUST REMEMBERED! THE LOCAL SIOUX RESERVATION WANTS TO HONOR BRUCE WAYNE FOR HIS CHARITY WORK BY MAKING HIM AN HONORARY CHIEF! I'VE PUT IT OFF-- BEEN TOO BUSY! BUT MAYBE THIS IS A WAY TO LURE TWO-FACE!
BUT--- I DON'T UNDER-STAND...
Wayne
WHEN BRUCE WAYNE IS CROWNED AS CHIEF, THAT OFFICIALLY MAKES HIM A PALEFACE "INDIAN"! THE PAPERS ARE SURE TO PLAY THAT ANGLE UP--- AND THAT GIVES BRUCE WAYNE TWO-FACES! IT'S A LONG SHOT— BUT CERTAINLY WORTH TRYING!
AND SO TWO DAYS LATER, AS A THRONG GATHERS TO WITNESS THE CEREMONY AT THE SIOUX RESERVATION...
WE'LL SEARCH THE CROWD FIRST--- IF TWO-FACE ISN'T HERE, I'LL SLIP OUT OF MY COSTUME AND ACCEPT THE HONORS AS BRUCE WAYNE!
BATMAN--- LOOK! AN OBSOLETE BI-PLANE WITH TWO-MOTORS! IT'S LANDING! MAYBE WE'VE HOOKED OUR FISH!
BUT AS THE LAWMEN SWIFTLY SNEAK UP BEHIND THE PLANE...
SAND-- (GASP)-- BLINDED! WE SET A TRAP-- AND FELL INTO ONE OUR-SELVES! SHOULD HAVE SPOTTED THOSE PILES OF SAND BEHIND THE PROPELLERS!
HA-HA! I GUESSED THEY'D BE HERE! GRAB THEM-- AND WE'LL HURRY TO THE HIDEOUT! EVERYTHING'S SET FOR THE ARRIVAL OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!
AND SOON AFTER, AT TWO-FACE'S HIDEOUT, A GRIM SIGHT GREETS THE CAPTURED CRIMEFIGHTERS...
ONCE AGAIN MY LUCKY COIN WILL DECIDE YOUR FATE, BATMAN! ONLY THIS TIME, IT WILL BE A GIANT COIN! YOU'LL BE STRAPPED TO THE COIN AND FLIPPED BY THAT DEVICE INTO THE AIR OVER THE SPIKES! IF YOU COME DOWN WRONG-SIDE-UP --- WELL, NEED I SAY MORE?
9

SOON AFTER, AS THE HAPLESS **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ARE STRAPPED WITH WIRE ACROSS THE "GOOD FACE" OF THE HUGE COIN...

THIS LOOKS LIKE A FIFTY-FIFTY CHANCE, **ROBIN**-- BUT IT ISN'T! OUR WEIGHT WILL SURELY TIP THE COIN SO THAT WE COME DOWN ON THE SPIKES-- AND **TWO-FACE** KNOWS IT!

HURRY AND FIX THAT MECHANISM! I CAN'T WAIT FOR THE TOSS OF **THIS** COIN!

MINUTES PASS, SLOWLY, AGONIZINGLY! AND THEN THE CATAPULT MECHANISM IS READY! AT A SIGNAL FROM **TWO-FACE**, THE COIN IS LAUNCHED INTO THE AIR!

HA-HA! WHAT AN IDEA THIS WAS! THE GREATEST OF MY CAREER!

UP SPINS THE COIN, TO THE TOP OF ITS ARC-- AND THEN DOWN IT STARTS, TURNING OVER AND OVER...

DOWN... DOWN... EVER SPINNING... GETTING CLOSER AND CLOSER!

AND THEN A SUDDEN CRAZY FLIP, AND THE COIN LANDS **GOOD SIDE UP!**

THEY LANDED SAFELY-- AND THEY'VE SNAPPED THEIR BONDS! EVERYTHING'S GONE WRONG! EVERYTHING! I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

HITTING LIKE TWIN BLASTS OF DYNAMITE, THE LAWMEN SAIL INTO THE DEMORALIZED CROOKS...

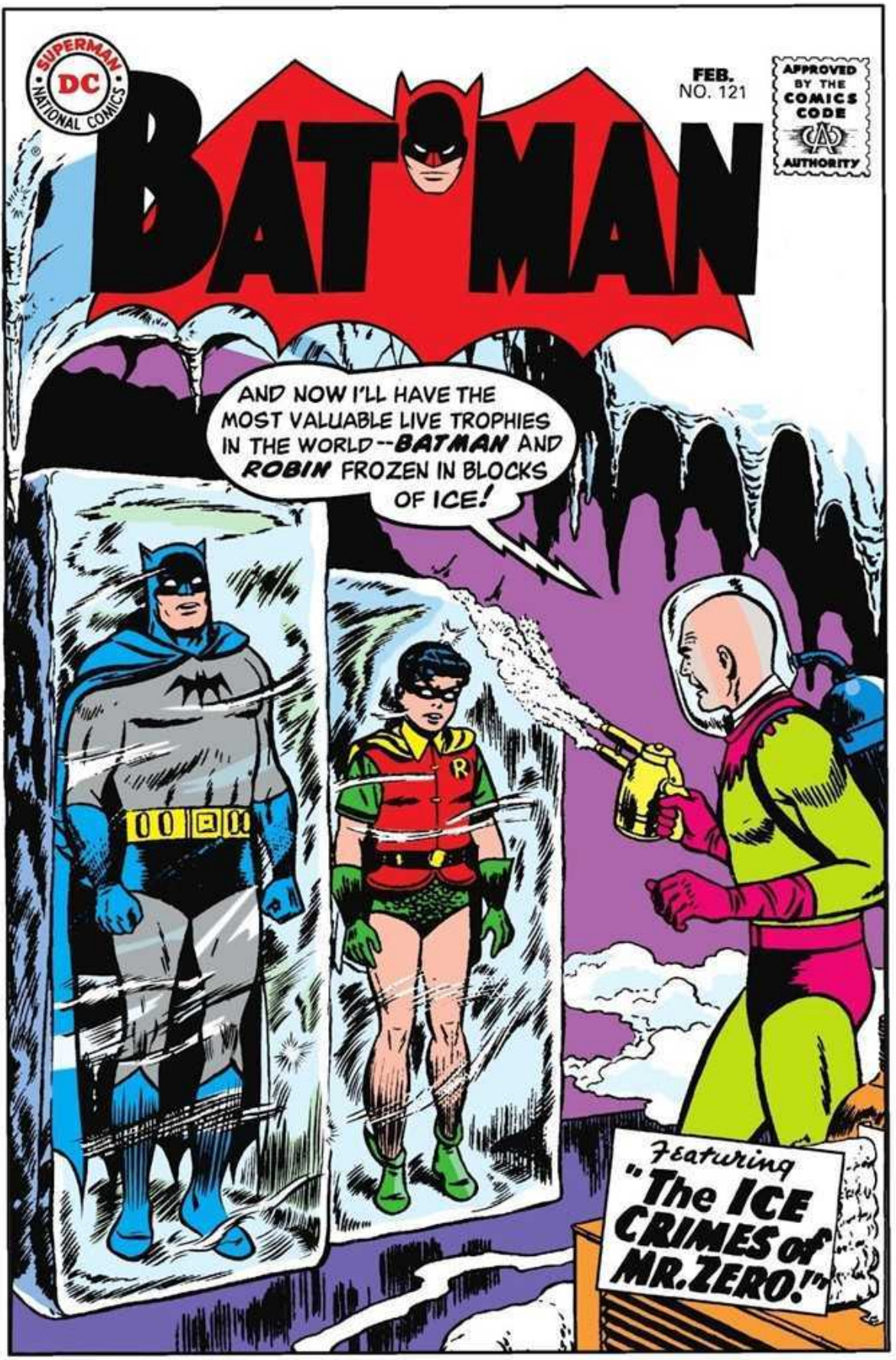
YOUR MEN BOUND US TOO TIGHTLY WITH THAT WIRE! BY STRAINING AGAINST IT JUST BEFORE WE LANDED, **ROBIN** AND I DREW IT TRIGGER-TAUT! THE SOLID, SHARP LANDING IMPACT SNAPPED IT!

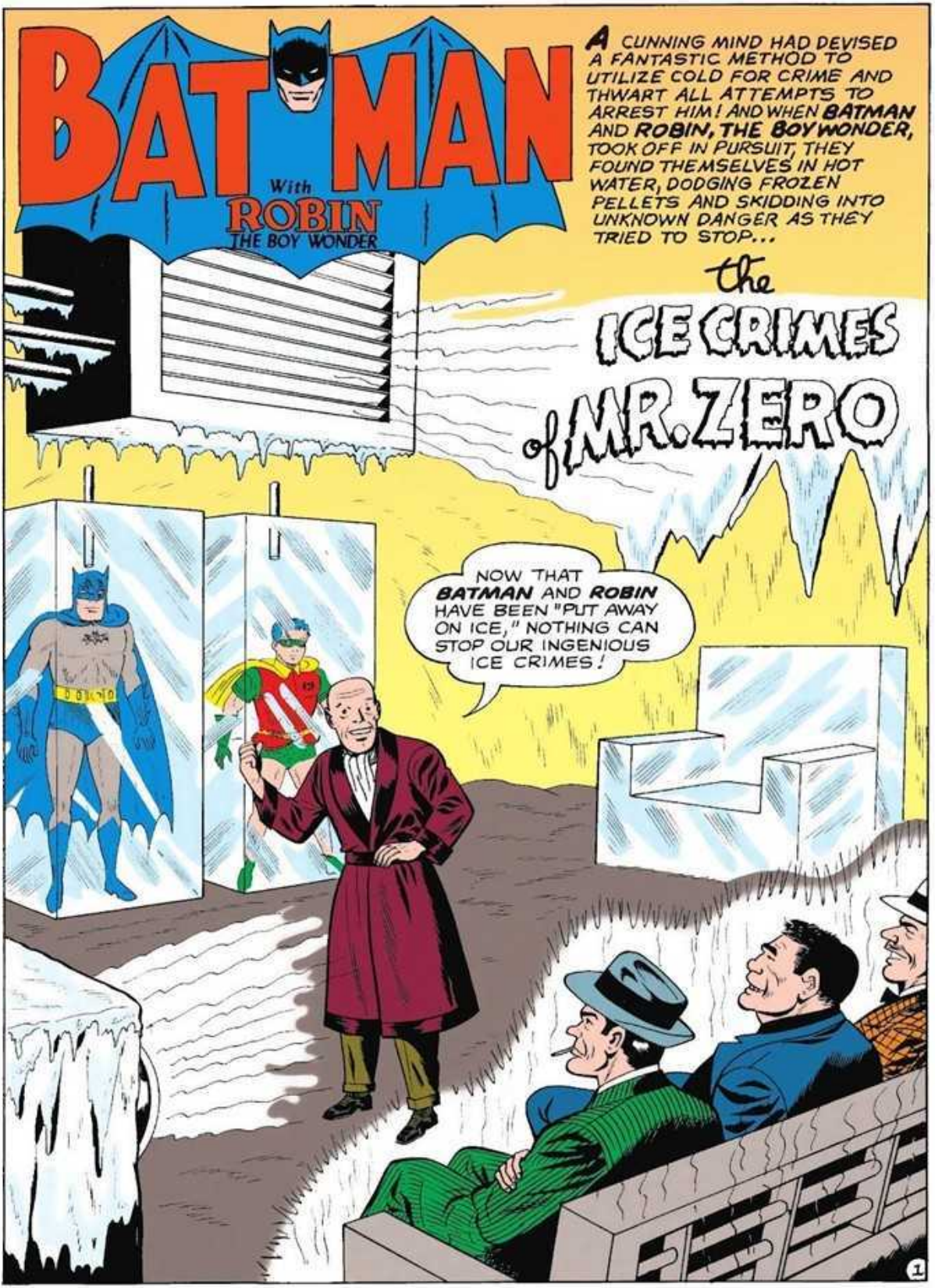
BUT HOW DID YOU LAND GOOD SIDE UP? IT WAS PRACTICALLY AN IMPOSSIBILITY!

YOU SLIPPED UP! YOU STRAPPED US TO THAT COIN IN SUCH A WAY THAT OUR HANDS COULD REACH OUR BELT RADIOS! YOU NEVER NOTICED US FIDDLING WITH OUR RADIOS, CHANGING CONNECTIONS, TURNING THE RADIOS INTO **ELECTRO-MAGNETS!**

BY CONNECTING THESE MAGNETS WITH YOUR **WIRE BINDINGS**, WE SET UP A POWERFUL **NEGATIVE MAGNETIC FIELD!** IT **REPELLED** THOSE SPIKES-- MAKING THE COIN LAND THE WAY IT DID!

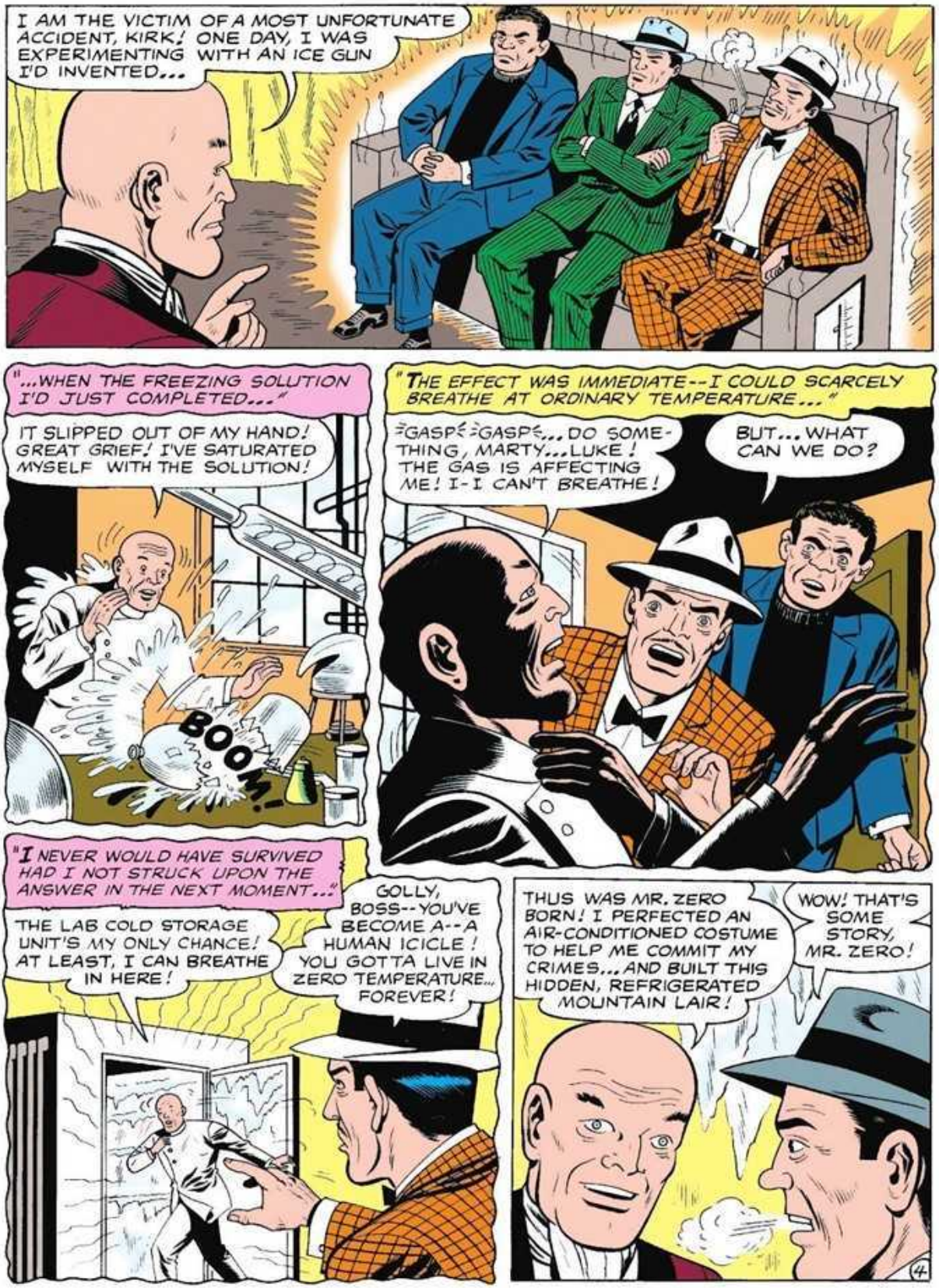
THE END


SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
BATMAN
FEB.
NO. 121
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
AND NOW I'LL HAVE THE MOST VALUABLE LIVE TROPHIES IN THE WORLD--BATMAN AND ROBIN FROZEN IN BLOCKS OF ICE!
Featuring "The ICE CRIMES of MR. ZERO!"

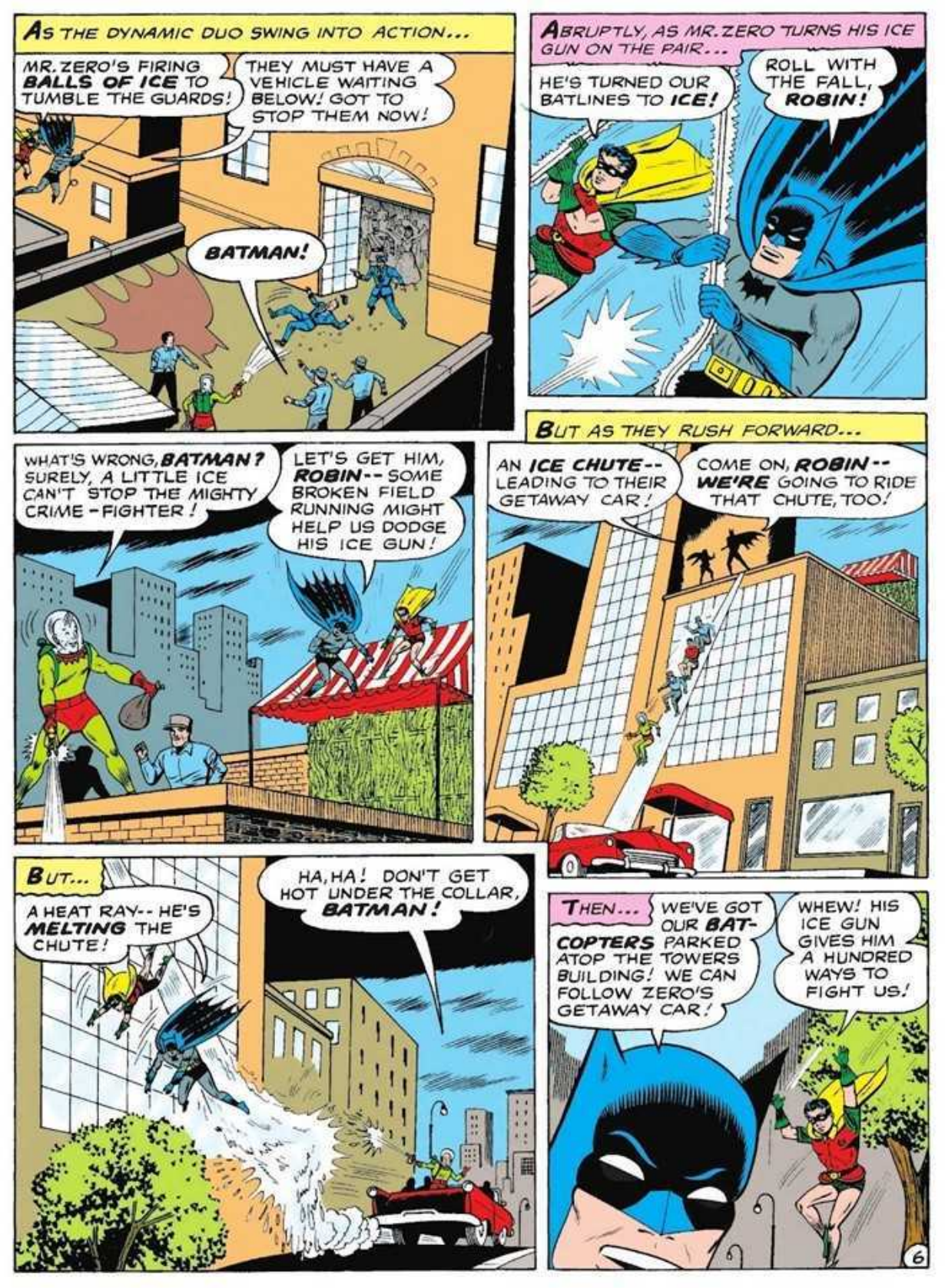

BATMAN
With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER
A CUNNING MIND HAD DEVISED A FANTASTIC METHOD TO UTILIZE COLD FOR CRIME AND THWART ALL ATTEMPTS TO ARREST HIM! AND WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, TOOK OFF IN PURSUIT, THEY FOUND THEMSELVES IN HOT WATER, DODGING FROZEN PELLETS AND SKIDDING INTO UNKNOWN DANGER AS THEY TRIED TO STOP...
the ICE CRIMES of MR. ZERO
NOW THAT BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE BEEN "PUT AWAY ON ICE," NOTHING CAN STOP OUR INGENIOUS ICE CRIMES!
1

MIDNIGHT IN GOTHAM CITY, AND AN ICE CREAM TRUCK COMES TO A STOP BEFORE THE JEWELRY EXCHANGE...
MR. ZERO--WE'RE HERE!
OPEN UP, MARTY, AND I'LL GET TO WORK!
TAP TAP
THE FREEZING COMPARTMENT DOOR SWINGS OPEN--AND A BIZARRE CRIMINAL EMERGES...
BEFORE THE POLICE ANSWER THE ALARM, WE'LL BE FAR FROM HERE... WITH A FORTUNE IN "ICE"! NOW, TO BLAST THE VAULT WITH MY HEAT CAPSULE!
CLANG! CLANG!
CRASH!
THE FANTASTIC MR. ZERO TRIGGERS HIS STRANGE WEAPON...
THAT SHOULD HEAT THE WALLS OF THE VAULT SUFFICIENTLY! NOW TO QUICK-FREEZE IT WITH MY ICE GAS...
SSSSSS
AN INCREDIBLE SOLUTION SQUIRTS FROM THE SECOND BARREL OF THE GUN...
LOOK AT THE VAULT CRACK OPEN! YOU'RE A GENIUS, MR. ZERO!
INTENSE HEAT FOLLOWED BY INTENSE COLD PRODUCES THE PHENOMENON! NOW... FETCH THE "ICE"--HURRY!
CRAAACK!
CRAACK!
MOMENTS LATER, AS THE GANG FLEES WITH THE LOOT...
THE BAT-SIGNAL! BATMAN AND ROBIN WILL BE HERE ANY SECOND!
BUT WE WON'T BE HERE TO WELCOME THEM, MARTY!
SUDDENLY, THE ROARING JETS FILL THE AIR...
THEY'RE ESCAPING IN THAT TRUCK, BATMAN! AND LOOK AT THE ONE IN THE FREEZING COMPARTMENT!
HE'S WEARING A SPECIAL SUIT OF SOME KIND, ROBIN! WE'LL FIND OUT WHY WHEN WE CAPTURE HIM!
ICE CREAM
2

THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTER REMOVES HIS SILKEN LASSO FROM HIS UTILITY BELT, AND...
GOOD THROW, BATMAN!
MY UNIQUE WEAPON WILL END BATMAN'S PURSUIT ON HIS JET-SKATES!
BATMAN... WHAT'S HE DOING?
I DON'T KNOW, ROBIN! HE'S SPRAYING THE STREET WITH SOMETHING!
FOOOSH!
AS THE PAIR SPEED OVER THE SLICK SURFACE...
IT'S A SHEET OF ICE, ROBIN!
I PUT THOSE TWO ON THE SKIDS! THEY CAN'T FOLLOW US NOW!
THEY GOT AWAY, BATMAN!
BUT AT LEAST WE CAUGHT ONE OF THEM, ROBIN! MAYBE WE CAN GET A LEAD TO THEIR HIDEOUT THROUGH HIM!
YOU WON'T GET ANYTHING OUT OF ME, BATMAN! MR. ZERO WOULD PUT ME ON "ICE" FOR KEEPS... IF I TALKED!
PERHAPS YOU'LL CHANGE YOUR MIND AFTER SPENDING SOME TIME IN THE COOLER! HERE COME THE POLICE NOW!
LATER, WITHIN A REMOTE MOUNTAIN OUTSIDE GOTHAM CITY...
HERE'S THE NEW MAN TO REPLACE GUS, WHO WAS CAPTURED, MR. ZERO! HIS NAME IS KIRK!
THIS IS AN ODD SET-UP! WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?
3

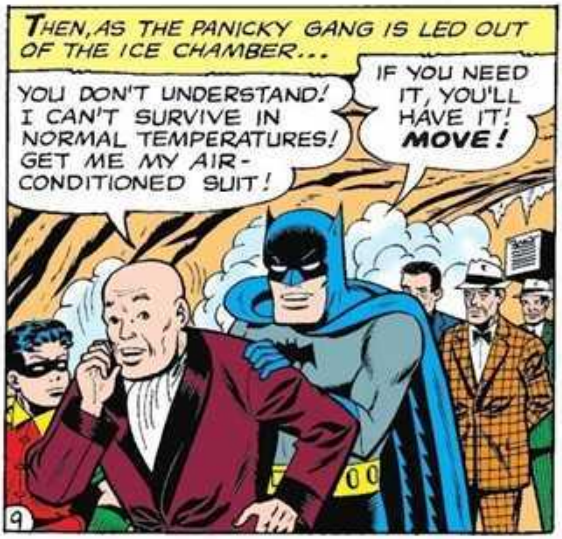

I AM THE VICTIM OF A MOST UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT, KIRK! ONE DAY, I WAS EXPERIMENTING WITH AN ICE GUN I'D INVENTED...
"...WHEN THE FREEZING SOLUTION I'D JUST COMPLETED..."
IT SLIPPED OUT OF MY HAND! GREAT GRIEF! I'VE SATURATED MYSELF WITH THE SOLUTION!
BOOM!
"THE EFFECT WAS IMMEDIATE--I COULD SCARCELY BREATHE AT ORDINARY TEMPERATURE..."
GASP GASP... DO SOMETHING, MARTY...LUKE! THE GAS IS AFFECTING ME! I-I CAN'T BREATHE!
BUT... WHAT CAN WE DO?
"I NEVER WOULD HAVE SURVIVED HAD I NOT STRUCK UPON THE ANSWER IN THE NEXT MOMENT..."
THE LAB COLD STORAGE UNIT'S MY ONLY CHANCE! AT LEAST, I CAN BREATHE IN HERE!
GOLLY, BOSS--YOU'VE BECOME A--A HUMAN ICICLE! YOU GOTTA LIVE IN ZERO TEMPERATURE... FOREVER!
THUS WAS MR. ZERO BORN! I PERFECTED AN AIR-CONDITIONED COSTUME TO HELP ME COMMIT MY CRIMES... AND BUILT THIS HIDDEN, REFRIGERATED MOUNTAIN LAIR!
WOW! THAT'S SOME STORY, MR. ZERO!
4

NOW, GENTLEMEN, WE WILL CONTINUE WITH OUR PLANS TO "FREEZE" THE WEALTH OF GOTHAM CITY! HERE IS PLAN C!
NEXT DAY, OUTSIDE THE EXCLUSIVE GOTHAM CITY HOTEL...
SPECIAL FROZEN MEAT SHIPMENT FOR THE VISITING PRINCE AND PRINCESS!
OKAY--THE STORAGE LOCKERS ARE STRAIGHT AHEAD!
SHORTLY, A FANTASTIC CRIME PLAN TAKES FORM...
GUARDS ARE ALL OVER THE PLACE, PROTECTING THE VISITING ROYALTY, BUT THANKS TO MR. ZERO, WE'LL GET INSIDE JUST THE SAME!
QUIET! GET READY TO MOVE AS SOON AS HE'S FINISHED!
THEN, AS MR. ZERO FIRES THE FREEZING JET...
GRAB THE PRINCESS' TIARA AND HER DIAMOND PENDANT! HURRY!
OH-H-H!
NEARBY, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN HEAR A POLICE BULLETIN...
...AND THE THIEVES HAVE SMASHED INTO THE GRAND BALL ROOM...
THERE'S THE HOTEL--AND MR. ZERO ESCAPING ON THE TERRACE, ROBIN!
5


AS THE DYNAMIC DUO SWING INTO ACTION...
MR. ZERO'S FIRING BALLS OF ICE TO TUMBLE THE GUARDS!
THEY MUST HAVE A VEHICLE WAITING BELOW! GOT TO STOP THEM NOW!
BATMAN!
ABRUPTLY, AS MR. ZERO TURNS HIS ICE GUN ON THE PAIR...
HE'S TURNED OUR BATLINES TO ICE!
ROLL WITH THE FALL, ROBIN!
BUT AS THEY RUSH FORWARD...
WHAT'S WRONG, BATMAN? SURELY, A LITTLE ICE CAN'T STOP THE MIGHTY CRIME-FIGHTER!
LET'S GET HIM, ROBIN -- SOME BROKEN FIELD RUNNING MIGHT HELP US DODGE HIS ICE GUN!
AN ICE CHUTE -- LEADING TO THEIR GETAWAY CAR!
COME ON, ROBIN -- WE'RE GOING TO RIDE THAT CHUTE, TOO!
BUT...
A HEAT RAY -- HE'S MELTING THE CHUTE!
HA, HA! DON'T GET HOT UNDER THE COLLAR, BATMAN!
THEN...
WE'VE GOT OUR BAT-COPTERS PARKED ATOP THE TOWERS BUILDING! WE CAN FOLLOW ZERO'S GETAWAY CAR!
WHEW! HIS ICE GUN GIVES HIM A HUNDRED WAYS TO FIGHT US!
6

NOT LONG AFTER, AS THE FLYING PAIR PICK UP MR. ZERO'S TRAIL...
LOOK, BATMAN-- A PATROL CAR IS RIGHT BEHIND MR. ZERO!
SWOOP DOWN--WE'LL CLOSE IN ON THE GANG TOGETHER WITH THE POLICE!
BUT MR. ZERO AGAIN BRINGS HIS GUN INTO PLAY...
THAT WILL STOP YOU COLD, OFFICERS!
WHAT'S WRONG?
HE FROZE OUR MOTOR! IT... CONKED OUT!
SPUTTER-SPUTTER-SPUT...
DID YOU SEE THAT, BATMAN?
OPEN YOUR THROTTLE WIDE, ROBIN-- WE MUSTN'T LOSE THAT CHARACTER NOW!
BUT BATMAN'S WARNING CRY COMES TOO LATE AS...
A FEW MILES AHEAD...
THEY MUST HAVE DRIVEN INTO A MOUNTAIN CAVE, BATMAN! THEY'RE NOT ON THE ROAD!
ROBIN! VEER YOUR 'COPTER!
PERFECT SHOT, MR. ZERO--YOU ICED THEIR PROPELLERS, AND THEY'RE FALLING RIGHT INTO YOUR LAIR!
YES! AND WHEN I GET THROUGH WITH BATMAN AND ROBIN, I'LL HAVE THE MOST VALUABLE TROPHIES IN THE WORLD!
7

LATER, SMIRKING HOODLUMS OBSERVE FROM THEIR HEATED GALLERY AS MR. ZERO SHOWS HIS "TROPHIES"...
TRAPPED IN ICE CAKES-- TO REMAIN AS LIVING PRIZES FOR MR. ZERO!
THERE YOU ARE, GENTLEMEN! WHILE THE WORLD WONDERS WHAT BECAME OF BATMAN AND ROBIN, I SHALL HAVE THE PLEASURE OF THEIR COMPANY AS LONG AS I DESIRE!
NOW WE ARE READY TO EXECUTE MY MASTER ICE CRIME-- "FREEZING" GOTHAM ARENA DURING THE INTERNATIONAL GEM SHOW!
HMMM
AND AS THE CRIMINAL KING OF COLD MAKES HIS PLANS...
BATMAN-- ROCKING HIS BLOCK OF ICE! BUT EVEN IF HE TIPS IT OVER AND CRACKS IT OPEN, MR. ZERO WILL FREEZE HIM AGAIN!
GOT TO KEEP ROCKING!... IT'S... OUR ONLY CHANCE...
SWOOSH!
ABRUPTLY, STEAM ENVELOPS THE ROOM AS HEAT GUSHES FORTH...
YIII! HE SNAPPED THE PIPE LEADING TO THE HEAT GALLERY-- THE HOT AND COLD AIR MEETING ARE CREATING STEAM! MY AIR-CONDITIONED SUIT-- I CAN'T SEE TO LOCATE IT!
WOW! THE IMPACT CRACKED OPEN BOTH OUR ICE BLOCKS!
I'VE GOT TO GRAB MR. ZERO BEFORE HE CAN FIND HIS ICE GUN!
8



BATMAN

With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

Tales from Beyond

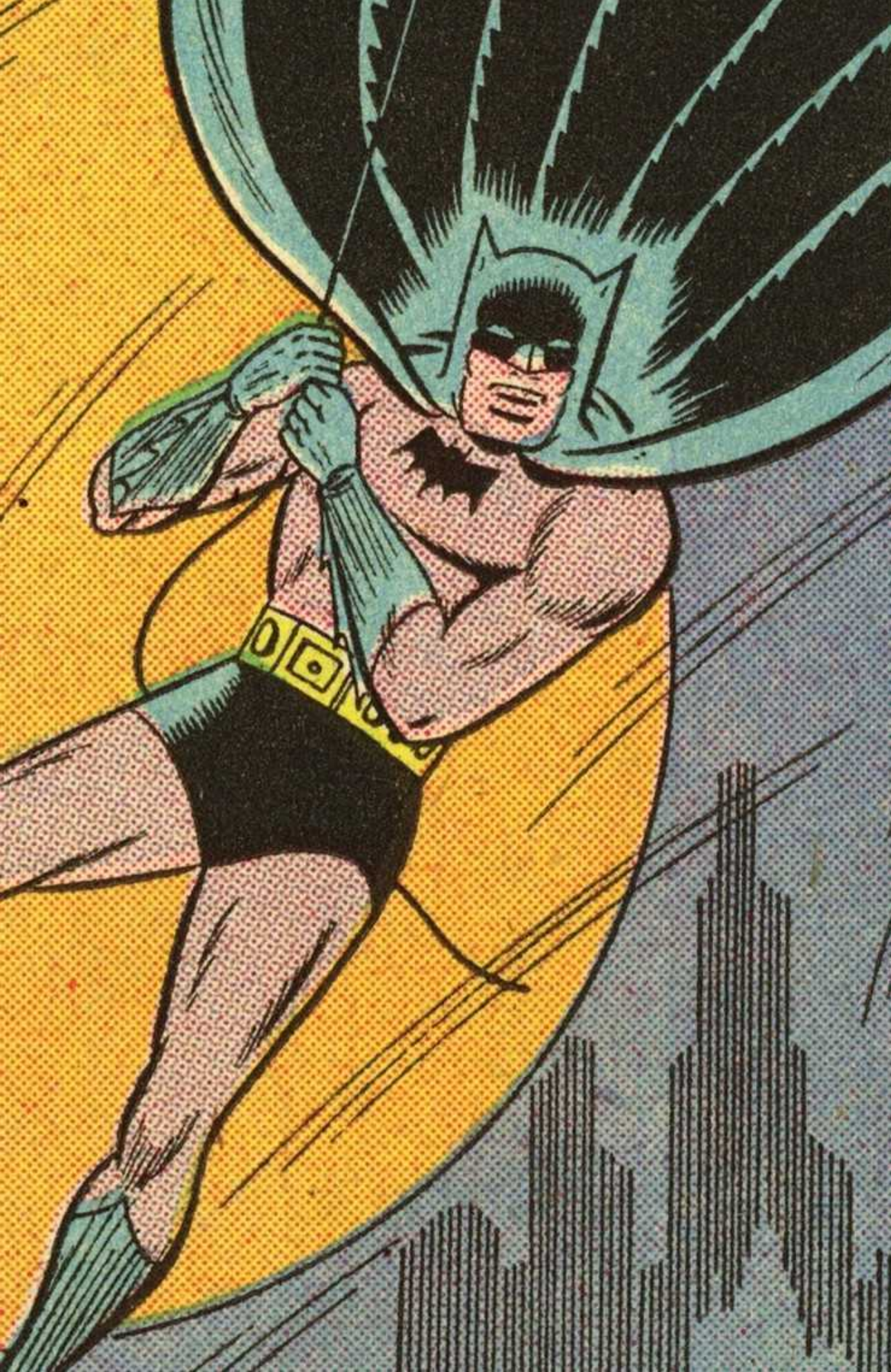
A number of factors went into Batman's transformation from the gritty Dark Knight Detective to a time-traveling, space-hurtling, oft-transmogrifying science fiction hero.

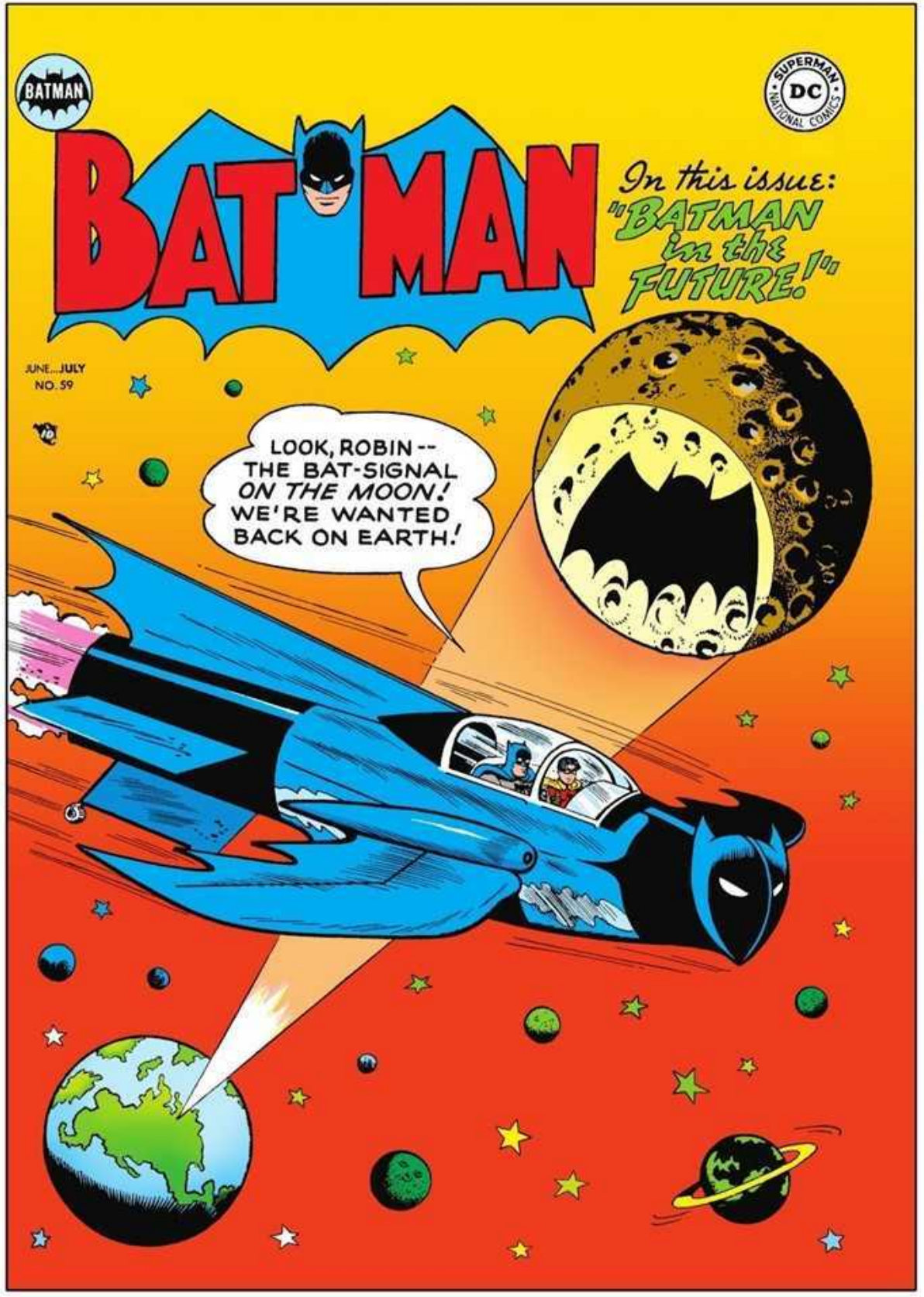
First, the decade of the 1950s saw the full blossoming of the atomic age. As governments attempted to further harness the power of the atom, mankind made its first attempts to touch the cosmos. The Soviet satellite Sputnik was launched into space in 1957. A year later, the United States would found NASA. The imaginations of millions of baby boomer kids were fueled by these scientific advancements, and the entertainment industry sought to capitalize on that fascination. Moon men, ray guns, and strange monsters packed movie houses and flourished on Saturday morning television.

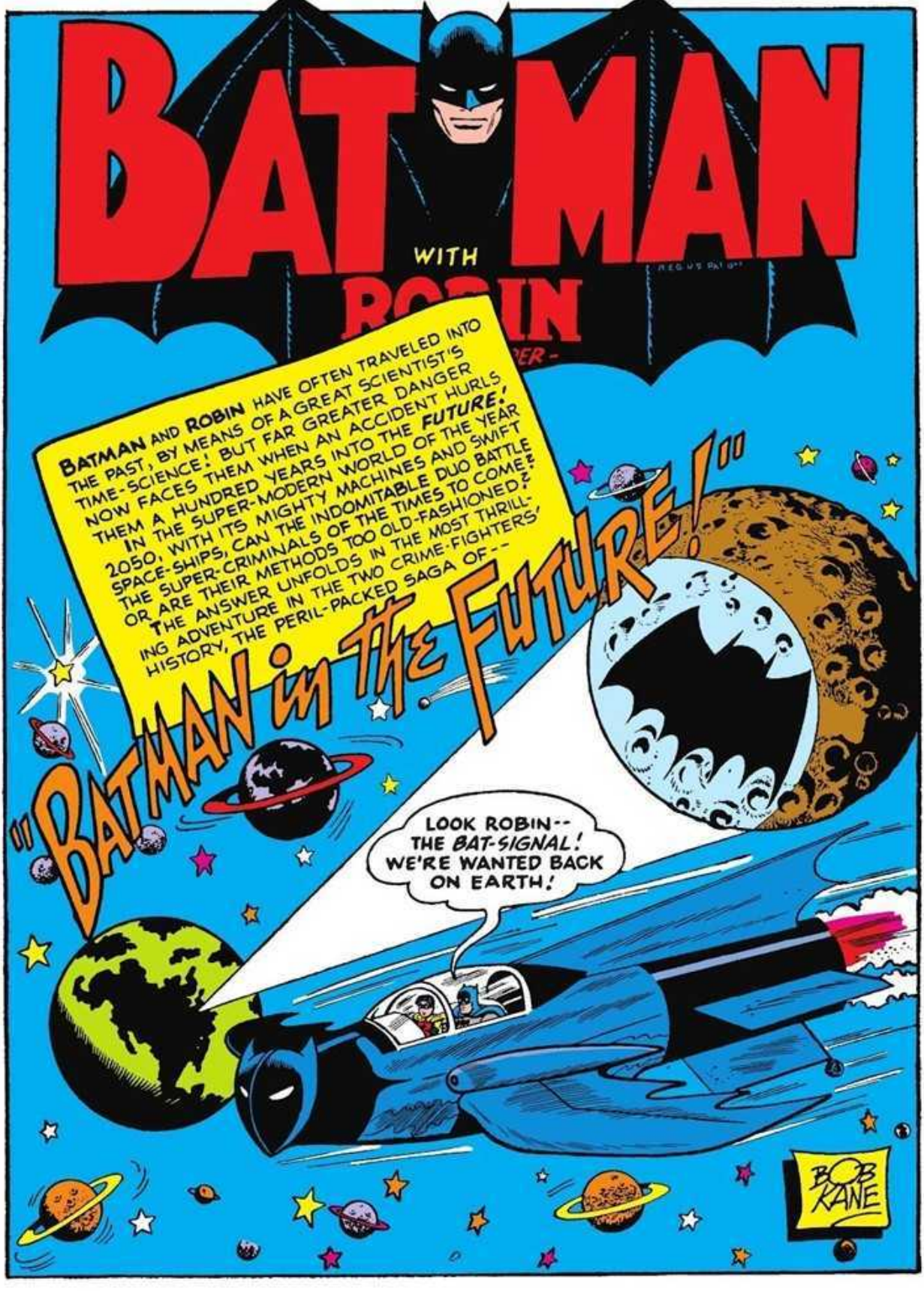
Comics companies, likewise, sought to tap into the sci-fi market. DC was fortunate in that its top-selling hero, Superman, had a bevy of sci-fi elements built into his own origin. He was the lone survivor of an extinct planet, who was sent by his father—via rocket ship—to Earth, where his alien physique gave him incredible new powers. And with those powers, he would battle bizarre creatures and travel to strange new worlds. Kids loved it—and it sold through the roof.

So DC managing editor Jack Schiff decided to take that winning formula and adapt it to the company's number-two-selling hero, Batman. Though the Caped Crusader had tangled with aliens occasionally in preceding years, he was never so immersed in alien invaders and fantastic voyages as he was in the latter half of the 1950s. The covers of *Detective Comics* and *Batman* were splashed with such B-movie fare as "The Creature from the Green Lagoon!" (*Detective Comics* #252), "Prisoners of the Giant Robots" (*Detective Comics* #258), and "Manhunt in Outer Space" (*Batman* #117), not to be confused with "The Creature from Planet X" (*Detective Comics* #270).

Another force at work on the fate of the Dark Knight was the newly instituted Comics Code, a reaction by the comic book industry to the U.S. Senate's investigations into the relationship between comic books and juvenile delinquency. In light of the effort under the Code to expunge material that could potentially be found dangerous by sensitive parents and politicians, Schiff cut back on gun-toting hoodlums, bare-knuckle street brawls, and lurid murder cases. And so, tales less grounded in reality dominated the world of Batman as the decade drew to a close.

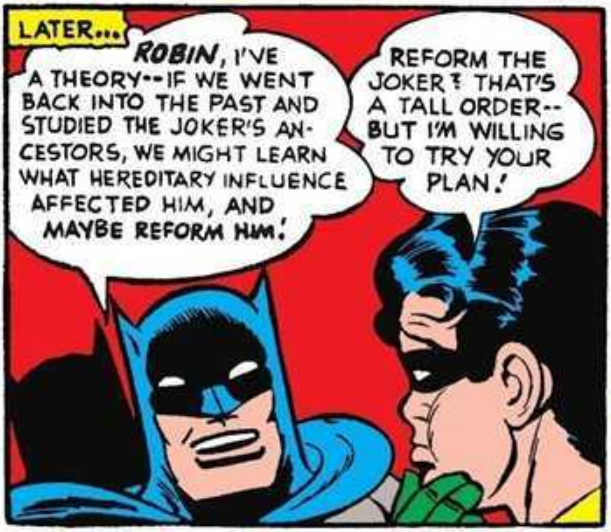



BATMAN
SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
BATMAN
In this issue:
"BATMAN in the FUTURE!"
JUNE-JULY
NO. 59
LOOK, ROBIN -- THE BAT-SIGNAL ON THE MOON! WE'RE WANTED BACK ON EARTH!


BAT MAN
WITH
ROBIN
BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE OFTEN TRAVELED INTO THE PAST, BY MEANS OF A GREAT SCIENTIST'S TIME-SCIENCE! BUT FAR GREATER DANGER NOW FACES THEM WHEN AN ACCIDENT HURLS THEM A HUNDRED YEARS INTO THE FUTURE! IN THE SUPER-MODERN WORLD OF THE YEAR 2050, WITH ITS MIGHTY MACHINES AND SWIFT SPACE-SHIPS, CAN THE INDOMITABLE DUO BATTLE THE SUPER-CRIMINALS OF THE TIMES TO COME? OR ARE THEIR METHODS TOO OLD-FASHIONED? THE ANSWER UNFOLDS IN THE MOST THRILLING ADVENTURE IN THE TWO CRIME-FIGHTERS' HISTORY, THE PERIL-PACKED SAGA OF--
"BATMAN in the FUTURE!"
LOOK ROBIN-- THE BAT-SIGNAL! WE'RE WANTED BACK ON EARTH!
BOB KANE

HIGH ABOVE THE STREETS OF GOTHAM CITY, BATMAN AND ROBIN CORNER AN OLD FOE--THAT ARCH-PRANKSTER OF CRIME, THE JOKER!
THIS WILL HELP YOU SEE A FEW MORE STARS, JOKER!
THEATER OF THE STARS
OOF! I SURRENDER!

SOON...
JOKER, WHY DO YOU PERSIST IN USING YOUR TALENTS TO COMMIT CRAZY, HUMOROUS CRIMES?
I GUESS I INHERITED THAT FROM MY ANCESTORS A CENTURY AGO--THEY WERE FAMOUS CLOWNS!


LATER...
ROBIN, I'VE A THEORY--IF WE WENT BACK INTO THE PAST AND STUDIED THE JOKER'S ANCESTORS, WE MIGHT LEARN WHAT HEREDITARY INFLUENCE AFFECTED HIM, AND MAYBE REFORM HIM!
REFORM THE JOKER? THAT'S A TALL ORDER--BUT I'M WILLING TO TRY YOUR PLAN!

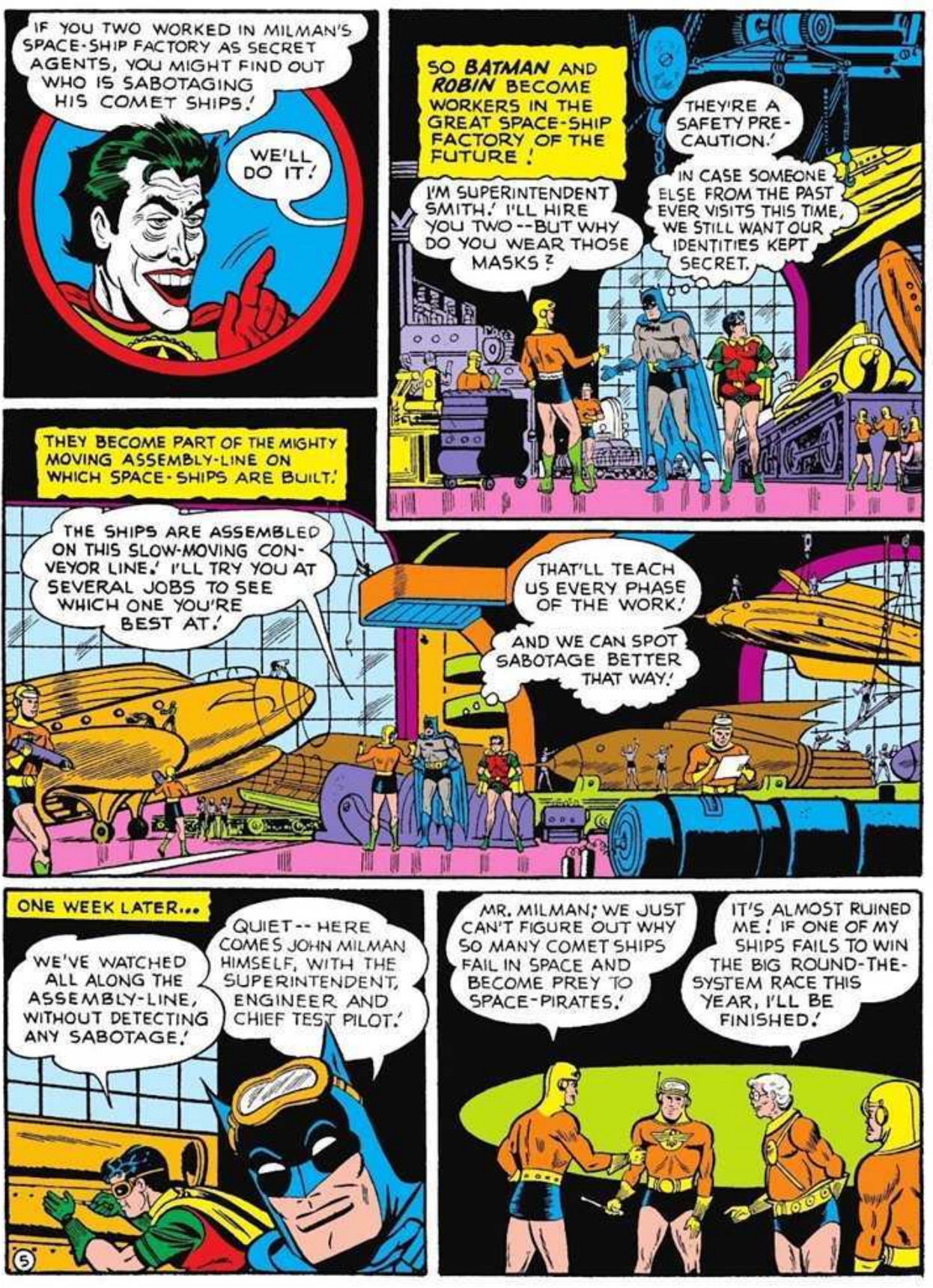
PROFESSOR CARTER NICHOLS' TIME-SCIENCE HAS OFTEN SENT HIS FRIENDS BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON--WHO ARE SECRETLY BATMAN AND ROBIN--INTO THE PAST!
YES, I'LL SEND YOU BACK A CENTURY. BUT DO YOU KNOW, I'VE BEEN WONDERING IF MY TIME-SCIENCE COULD SEND ANYONE INTO THE FUTURE?
IT'S AN INTRIGUING IDEA, BUT WE'RE NOT INTERESTED IN THE FUTURE RIGHT NOW!

PRESENTLY, PROF. NICHOLS USES HIS UNCANNY HYPNOTIC POWERS TO PROJECT BRUCE AND DICK INTO THE VORTEX OF TIME...
GO--GO A HUNDRED YEARS INTO THE FUTURE!

GOOD GRIEF! I WAS THINKING SO MUCH OF THE FUTURE THAT I SAID "FUTURE" INSTEAD OF "PAST"! I'VE SENT THEM A HUNDRED YEARS AHEAD IN TIME, INSTEAD OF BACK!
2

AND WHEN BRUCE AND DICK COME OUT OF THEIR TIME-BLACKOUT...
SEE THE DATE ON THAT NEWS BULLETIN--2050! NICHOLS MADE A GHASTLY MISTAKE AND PROJECTED US INTO THE FUTURE!
WHAT'S THIS? THIS ISN'T GOTHAM CITY OF 1850! AND THAT'S A SPACE SHIP TAKING OFF!
2050 AD
SECONDS LATER, THEY SIGHT A FAMILIAR FACE--EVEN IN THIS WORLD OF TOMORROW...
HELP!
THE JOKER--IN THIS FUTURE TIME!
AND UP TO HIS OLD TRICKS! QUICK! WE'LL SWITCH TO BATMAN AND ROBIN AND STOP HIS GAME!
A QUICK SHIFT OF COSTUME IN A DOORWAY, AND...
WHAT IS THIS? OFFICERS! ARREST THESE MASKED MEN!
NO YOU DON'T, JOKER!
AS POLICE SWIFTLY APPEAR, BATMAN AND ROBIN GET A STUNNING SURPRISE!
WE SAW THESE TWO THUGS GRABBING YOU, CHIEF ROKEJ!
THEY PREVENTED MY CAPTURING THE SPACE-PIRATE ZARRO-ARREST THEM!
GOOD GRIEF! THIS ISN'T THE JOKER BUT A DESCENDANT WHO'S HIS DOUBLE--AND IN THIS TIME HE'S POLICE CHIEF!
CHIEF
AT THE GOTHAM CITY POLICE HEADQUARTERS OF THE YEAR 2050!
LOCK THEM UP!
IT'S CRAZY--IN THIS WORLD OF THE FUTURE, IT'S THE JOKER WHO IS JAILING US!
WAIT, WE'RE NOT CRIMINALS! WE CAME FROM THE PAST--WE'RE CALLED BATMAN AND ROBIN!
POLICE
BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE GREAT CRIME-FIGHTERS OF A CENTURY AGO? IMPOSSIBLE! YOU'RE TWO CROOKS WHO PUT ON THEIR FAMOUS COSTUMES TO DECEIVE US!
NO, WE DID COME FROM THE PAST--BUT HOW CAN WE PROVE IT?
3

I'VE GOT IT--SKIN PORE PATTERNS ARE DIFFERENT IN EVERY PERSON, LIKE FINGERPRINTS! WITH A MAGNIFYING GLASS YOU CAN COMPARE THE PORE-PATTERN OF BATMAN'S CHIN IN THAT BIG PHOTO, WITH MINE.!
I'LL TRY IT.!
BATMAN
HISTORY'S GREATEST DETECTA
THE PORE-PATTERN IS THE SAME AS IN THAT AUTHENTIC PHOTO OF BATMAN--YOU REALLY ARE BATMAN.!
AND YOU ARE AN EXACT DOUBLE OF A CHARACTER IN OUR TIME CALLED THE JOKER!
THE JOKER WAS MY ANCESTOR! BUT I DECIDED TO WORK WITH THE LAW INSTEAD OF AGAINST IT, AND WORKED UP TO POLICE CHIEF.!
IF WE'D ONLY KNOWN THAT, WE WOULDN'T HAVE INTERFERED AND LET ZARRO ESCAPE! WE'LL HELP YOU IN ANY WAY WE CAN, TO MAKE UP FOR OUR BLUNDER!
IT WOULD BE WONDERFUL TO HAVE THE GREAT BATMAN AND ROBIN HELPING ME AGAINST THESE SPACE-PIRATES.!
SPACE-PIRATES? THEY'RE NEW TO US! REMEMBER, EVERYTHING IN THIS WORLD OF 2050 IS STRANGE TO US.!
ROKEJ EXPLAINS! "SPACE-SHIPS OF MANY DIFFERENT MAKES NOW TRAVEL BETWEEN THE SOLAR SYSTEM WORLDS!"
HERE THEY COME IN THE FINISH OF THE RACE--A COMET IS FIRST, A SHOOTING STAR SECOND, AND A LIGHTNING THIRD.!
THOSE COMETS THAT JOHN MILMAN MAKES ARE THE FASTEST SHIPS IN SPACE.!
"BUT RECENTLY SPACE-PIRATES HAVE BEEN PREYING HEAVILY ON THE COMET-MADE SHIPS..."
"...AND MILMAN SUSPECTS A COMPETITOR IS SABOTAGING THE COMET SHIPS AT HIS FACTORY, TO MAKE THEM EASY PREY FOR PIRATES!"
4


IF YOU TWO WORKED IN MILMAN'S SPACE-SHIP FACTORY AS SECRET AGENTS, YOU MIGHT FIND OUT WHO IS SABOTAGING HIS COMET SHIPS!
WE'LL DO IT!
SO BATMAN AND ROBIN BECOME WORKERS IN THE GREAT SPACE-SHIP FACTORY OF THE FUTURE!
I'M SUPERINTENDENT SMITH.' I'LL HIRE YOU TWO--BUT WHY DO YOU WEAR THOSE MASKS?
THEY'RE A SAFETY PRE-CAUTION.'
IN CASE SOMEONE ELSE FROM THE PAST EVER VISITS THIS TIME, WE STILL WANT OUR IDENTITIES KEPT SECRET.
THEY BECOME PART OF THE MIGHTY MOVING ASSEMBLY-LINE ON WHICH SPACE-SHIPS ARE BUILT.'
THE SHIPS ARE ASSEMBLED ON THIS SLOW-MOVING CONVEYOR LINE.' I'LL TRY YOU AT SEVERAL JOBS TO SEE WHICH ONE YOU'RE BEST AT.'
THAT'LL TEACH US EVERY PHASE OF THE WORK.'
AND WE CAN SPOT SABOTAGE BETTER THAT WAY.'
ONE WEEK LATER...
WE'VE WATCHED ALL ALONG THE ASSEMBLY-LINE, WITHOUT DETECTING ANY SABOTAGE.'
QUIET-- HERE COMES JOHN MILMAN HIMSELF, WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT, ENGINEER AND CHIEF TEST PILOT.'
MR. MILMAN; WE JUST CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHY SO MANY COMET SHIPS FAIL IN SPACE AND BECOME PREY TO SPACE-PIRATES.'
IT'S ALMOST RUINED ME! IF ONE OF MY SHIPS FAILS TO WIN THE BIG ROUND-THE-SYSTEM RACE THIS YEAR, I'LL BE FINISHED.'
5

I'M GOING TO INSPECT THIS NEXT SHIP THOROUGHLY FOR MYSELF-- IT'S ALMOST FINISHED.'
WE'LL GET BACK TO OUR OWN JOBS, MR. MILMAN.'
BATMAN ACTS INSTANTLY, AND ROCKETS THUNDER.'
SUDDENLY, THE CONVEYOR-LINE SURGES FORWARD AT A RECKLESS PACE...
SOMEONE'S SWITCHED THE CONVEYOR-LINE INTO HIGH-SPEED!
OUR SHIP WILL CRUSH MILMAN.' THERE'S ONLY ONE CHANCE!
ZOOM
SMASH
THE BRAKE-ROCKETS WILL HOLD THIS SHIP AND THE ASSEMBLY-LINE BACK UNTIL YOU CAN TURN OFF THE CONVEYOR, ROBIN.'
MOMENTS LATER...
THANKS, BATMAN. I'D HAVE BEEN ACCIDENTALLY KILLED, BUT FOR YOU.' YOU CAN HAVE ANY REWARD.'
ALL I WANT IS A CHANCE TO LEARN SPACE-PILOTING, AND TO FIT UP A SMALL EXPERIMENTAL SPACE-SHIP OF MY OWN.'
AFTERWARD...
THAT WAS NO ACCIDENT.' A SECRET SABOTEUR DID THAT, TO KILL JOHN MILMAN.'
I KNOW--AND THAT MEANS EITHER SUPER-INTENDENT SMITH, ENGINEER ERKHAM OR TEST PILOT MARTIN IS THE SABOTEUR! ONLY THOSE THREE KNEW MILMAN WAS IN FRONT OF OUR SHIP.'
BUT HOW CAN WE FIND OUT WHICH ONE IS GUILTY?
I'VE AN IDEA ON THAT! SINCE MILMAN GAVE ME PERMISSION TO FIT UP AN EXPERIMENTAL SHIP AND LEARN SPACE-PILOTING, WE'LL DO THIS--
6

SOON, BATMAN'S INTENSIVE WORK RESULTS IN A STRANGE NEW CRAFT.!
THERE'S PILOT MARTIN TAKING A NEW COMET OUT TO TEST IT.! MANY COMETS ARE LOST IN TEST-FLIGHTS, SO WE'LL FOLLOW THAT ONE.!
A BAT-SHIP--TO FLY THROUGH SPACE LIKE THE BATPLANE FLEW THROUGH THE AIR IN OUR OWN TIME.!
INTO THE VOID OF SPACE, BATMAN FEARLESSLY PILOTS THE INTERPLANETARY BAT-SHIP IN SECRET PURSUIT.!
SOON, FAR OUT IN THE VASTNESS OF INFINITY...
LOOK! MARTIN'S SHIP HAS STOPPED AND IS DRIFTING.! IT'S BEEN SABOTAGED.!
AND THE RADAR SCREEN SHOWS SPACE-PIRATES COMING.! WE'VE GOT TO SAVE THAT SHIP.!
MARTIN, THIS IS BATMAN CALLING! HOOK ONTO MY SHIP WITH YOUR SPACE-GRAPPLE LINE AND I'LL TOW YOU.'
ALL RIGHT.!
I'VE CALLED THE PLANET PATROL, BUT THE PIRATES WILL GET HERE FIRST.! IF WE TOW MARTIN'S SHIP, WE CAN'T MOVE FAST ENOUGH TO ESCAPE.'
MAYBE WE CAN.! I BUILT A DEVICE INTO THE BAT-SHIP TO EMIT RADIOACTIVE PARTICLES OF OUR ATOMIC FUEL.!
THEY'LL MAKE OUR SHIP GLOW LIKE A REAL COMET, HIDING IT AND THE SHIP WE'RE TOWING.!
7

PRESENTLY, SPACE-PIRATES RACING IN FOR AN EASY CAPTURE GET A BAD SHOCK!
THE SHIP THAT WAS TO BE SABOTAGED MUST BE IN THIS SECTOR -- IT'LL BE AN EASY PREY!
LOOK, ZARRO -- AN UNCHARTED COMET, COMING RIGHT AT US! WE HAVE TO AVOID IT!
FRIGHTENED PIRATES SEEK TO ESCAPE A COMET THAT SEEMS BENT ON PURSUING THEM!
FALL BACK TOWARD MARS! WE DAREN'T LET IT GET TOO CLOSE!
IT'S AS THOUGH THAT COMET IS CHASING US! ITS ORBIT IS WILD!
THE RADAR SHOWS THE PATROL CRUISERS COMING! YOUR "COMET" HAS SCARED THE SPACE-PIRATES RIGHT INTO THEIR HANDS!
PLANET PATROL CRUISERS SWIFTLY HEM IN AND CAPTURE SCARED PIRATES!
SURRENDER, OR WE'LL BLAST YOU!
WE SURRENDER! THAT CRAZY COMET HAS RUINED OUR PLANS!
THAT MAKES UP FOR OUR LETTING ZARRO ESCAPE ON EARTH! NOW WE CAN TURN OFF MY FAKE "COMET" DEVICE --
BATMAN, LOOK! LOOK AT THE MOON!
R
8

THE BAT-SIGNAL! A GIANT ONE, PROJECTED ONTO THE MOON.'
POLICE CHIEF ROKEJ MUST HAVE SENT IT TO CALL US, ROBIN! SOMETHING'S WRONG BACK THERE.'

THE BAT-SHIP, WITH MARTIN'S HELPLESS CRAFT IN TOW, SCREAMS BACK TO EARTH AND SOON..
THE SABOTEUR STRUCK AGAIN WHILE YOU WERE GONE.'
AND WRECKED THE COMET SHIP I HAD ENTERED FOR THE GREAT ROUND-THE-SYSTEM RACE TOMORROW.'
THEN PILOT MARTIN IS NOT THE SABOTEUR--FOR HE WAS OUT WITH US.'

WINNING THE RACE WAS MY LAST HOPE OF MAKING A COME BACK! THIS SECRET SABOTAGE HAS FINALLY RUINED ME.'
WAIT.' MY BAT-SHIP IS YOUR LATEST MODEL. IF PILOT MARTIN WILL GO WITH US, WE CAN US IT FOR THE RACE.'

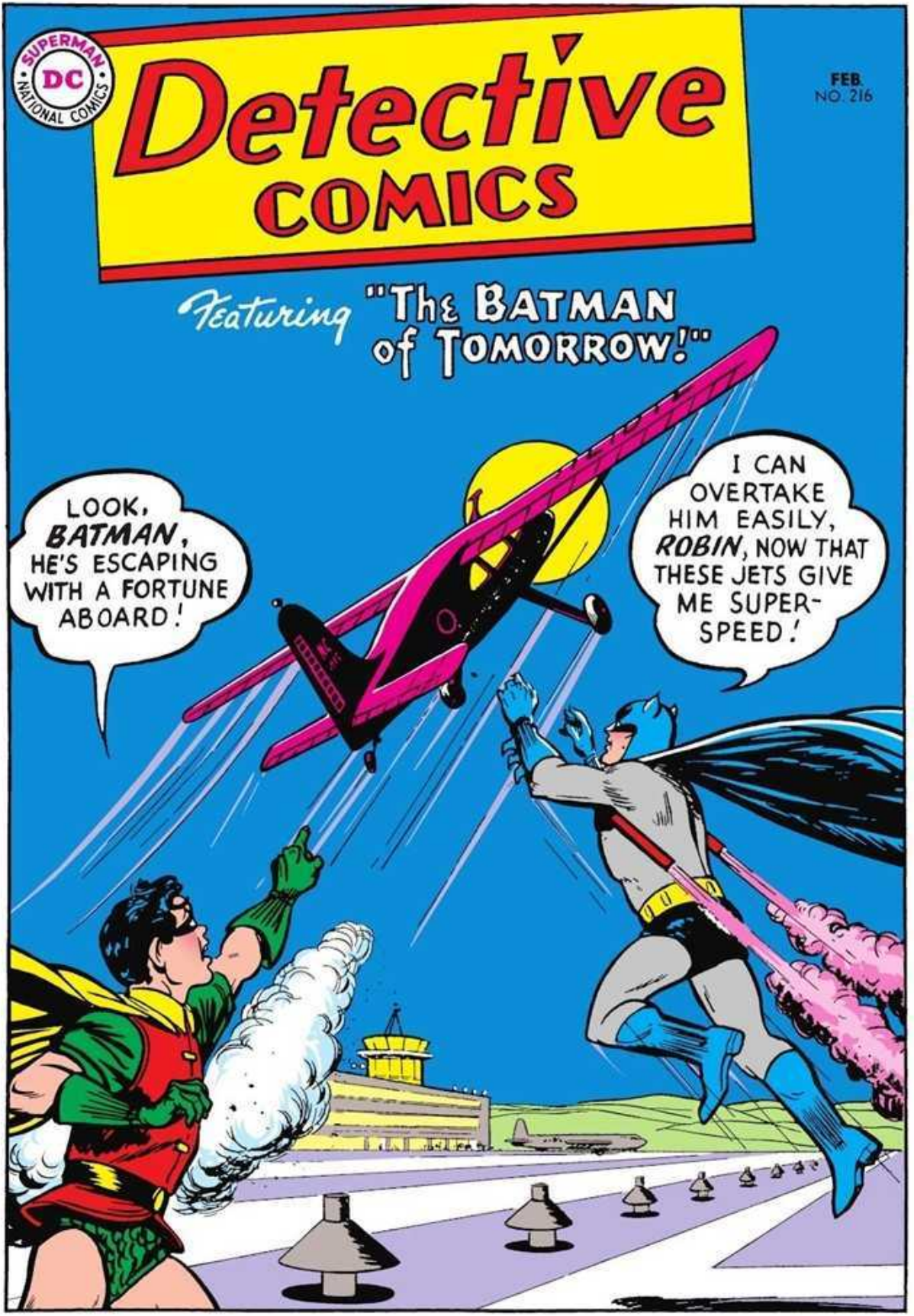
AND I'LL HAVE CHIEF ENGINEER ERKHAM CHECK OVER THAT OTHER SHIP TO SEE WHY ITS MOTORS FAILED IN SPACE.'
WE'LL DO IT.'
GOOD IDEA, SUPER-INTENDENT.'

NEXT DAY, SHIPS ARE LOADED WITH RADIOACTIVE FUEL FOR THE GREAT RACE AROUND THE SOLAR SYSTEM!
THEY'RE ALMOST READY TO START! THE SHIPS MUST REACH AND CIRCLE EACH OF THE PLANETS, AND THE FIRST ONE BACK TO EARTH WINS.'
WE'LL WIN THE RACE IF IT'S HUMANLY POSSIBLE, MR. MILMAN.'
YOU'RE MY LAST HOPE NOW, BATMAN AND ROBIN!

ROCKETS THUNDER AS THE SPACE-SHIPS TAKE OFF IN THE MIGHTIEST RACE OF ALL TIME!
THERE THEY GO--A METEOR IS LEADING!
BUT THAT QUEER LOOKING COMET IS CLOSE BEHIND!
TO MARS, TO JUPITER, AND THEN TO THE RINGED PLANET SATURN AND ON...
BATMAN, OUR MOTORS HAVE STOPPED! THE BAT-SHIP HAS BEEN SABOTAGED, TOO!
AND THE ETHER-CURRENTS ARE CARRYING US INTO THE SARGASSO SEA OF SPACE!
THE SARGASSO SEA OF SPACE--THE GRAVEYARD OF LOST SPACE-SHIPS!
WITH NO POWER, WE CAN NEVER GET OUT OF HERE!
LOOK, OUR RADIOACTIVE FUEL WAS TAKEN OUT AND ORDINARY DUST PUT INTO ALL THE SPARE TANKS!
THE SABOTEUR IN MILMAN'S FACTORY DID IT-- AND WE'RE HELPLESS!
FUEL
I HAVE AN IDEA, ROBIN. MAYBE WE CAN FIND SOME RADIOACTIVE FUEL LEFT IN SOME OF THE WRECKS HERE!
IT'LL BE A GOOD TRICK IF WE CAN DO IT!
THE INDOMITABLE ADVENTURERS FROM THE PAST HASTILY EXPLORE THE GREAT GRAVEYARD OF SPACE!
WE'VE ALREADY FOUND A GOOD BIT OF FUEL!
JUST A LITTLE MORE AND WE CAN START AGAIN!
10

SOON REFUELED, THE BAT-SHIP ROARS OUT OF THE SARGASSO TO CONTINUE THE INTERPLANETARY RACE.!
IT MAY SEEM HOPELESS, BUT FOR MILMAN'S SAKE WE'VE GOT TO TRY.!
WE'RE MANY HOURS BEHIND THE OTHER SHIPS NOW.!
R
RACING ON AT HIGHEST SPEED, AROUND THE SYSTEM TO URANUS, NEPTUNE AND PLUTO, THEN BACK TOWARD VENUS AND MERCURY..
THE OTHER SHIPS ARE STILL AN HOUR AHEAD OF US. BATMAN.!
WE'LL CATCH UP BY GOING CLOSER TO THE SUN THAN THEY DARE -- OUR COMET-PARTICLE DEVICE WILL PROTECT US A LITTLE FROM THE HEAT.!
PRESENTLY, AS THEY NEAR THE FIERY, MOLTEN ORB...
THE SUN'S HEAT IS OVERCOMING US.!
HANG ON-- WE'RE ALMOST PAST THE SUN NOW.!
SOON, THUNDERING SHIPS ROAR DOWN THE LAST HOME-STRETCH TO EARTH.!
THE COMET WINS.!
MILMAN'S SHIP WINS THE RACE.!
YOU'VE SAVED ME -- IF WE COULD ONLY FIND THE SABOTEUR, EVERYTHING WOULD BE ALL RIGHT. NOW.!
MAYBE WE CAN.! WILL YOU AND SUPERINTENDENT SMITH AND ENGINEER ERKHAM COME TO YOUR OFFICE?
11

THAT SABOTEUR ALMOST DOOMED US BY SECRETLY TAKING OUT OUR RADIOACTIVE FUEL AND SUBSTITUTING DUST! BUT THAT GIVES US A CLUE TO HIS IDENTITY!
SUDDENLY SWITCHING OFF THE LIGHTS, SO THAT THE ROOM IS DARK...
SEE, ENGINEER ERKHAM SHINES IN THE DARK! HE GOT RADIOACTIVE DUST ON HIM WHEN HE SECRETLY TOOK OUT OUR FUEL!
ALL RIGHT--I'LL CONFESS! YOUR COMPETITOR OF THE "METEOR" COMPANY PAID ME TO SABOTAGE COMET SHIPS!
THEN HE'LL GO TO THE MOON PRISON WITH YOU!
SOON...
YOU TWO ARE AS GREAT AS HISTORY TELLS!
BATMAN, I FEEL DIZZY--STRANGE--
NICHOLS IS DRAWING US BACK TO OUR OWN TIME! QUICK, CHANGE YOUR COSTUME BEFORE WE GO BACK!
AGAIN THE WHIRLING BLACKNESS OF A PLUNGE THROUGH TIME!
I'M SORRY I BLUNDERED AND SENT YOU INTO THE FUTURE INSTEAD OF THE PAST!
WE'RE NOT--FOR WE LEARNED PLENTY!
12
AND ONE THING WE LEARNED IS THAT THE JOKER WILL BE A REFORMED CHARACTER--A HUNDRED YEARS FROM NOW! BUT IN THE MEANWHILE--HE'S AN OUTLAW!
THE END


SUPERMAN
DC
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Detective COMICS
FEB.
NO. 216
Featuring "The BATMAN of TOMORROW!"
LOOK, BATMAN, HE'S ESCAPING WITH A FORTUNE ABOARD!
I CAN OVERTAKE HIM EASILY, ROBIN, NOW THAT THESE JETS GIVE ME SUPER-SPEED!

BATMAN

With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

BOB KANE

OUT OF FUTURE TIME COMES THE MOST ASTOUNDING OF VISITORS TO PRESENT-DAY GOTHAM CITY... A **BATMAN** OF THE YEAR 3055 -- HERE TO FIGHT A DEADLY PRESENT-DAY CRIME SCHEME OF OUR ERA! BUT DRAMATIC SURPRISES ARE IN STORE WHEN THE **BATMAN OF TODAY** IS TEMPORARILY REPLACED BY...

"The BATMAN of TOMORROW!"

A PERPLEXING PROBLEM FACES BATMAN AND ROBIN, ONE NIGHT, WHEN THEY RETURN TO THEIR SECRET BAT-CAVE...
THREE SUCCESSFUL ROBBERIES AND IN EACH CASE, THE CROOKS HAD INSIDE HELP!
YET WE CAN'T FIND OUT WHO HELPED THEM!
EVEN IN THEIR EVERYDAY IDENTITIES AS PLAYBOY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON, THE CRIME-CRUSHERS' WORRY PERSISTS...
I'M AFRAID THAT HOSPITAL BENEFIT BALL, TOMORROW NIGHT, WILL BE THEIR NEXT TARGET!
I KNOW... AND FORTUNATELY, I'LL BE THERE, TOO -- AS BRUCE WAYNE!
A BRILLIANT GATHERING AMONG WHOSE GUESTS IS A SOCIETY "IDLER" WHOM NONE SUSPECTS TO BE A LEGENDARY LAWMAN...
Model OF NEW HOSPITAL
I SEE I'M NOT NOTABLE ENOUGH TO RATE A PHOTO!
VICKI VALE, HERE TO COVER THE BALL FOR VUE MAGAZINE! SHE'LL GET SOME REAL NEWS-PICTURES IF THOSE CROOKS STRIKE!
HELLO, BRUCE -- SEE YOU LATER!
JUST THEN...
LOOK OUT! THE BIG HOSPITAL MODEL IS ROLLING DOWN ON US!
WHAT-? NO TIME TO CHANGE TO BATMAN! MUST STOP IT BEFORE IT CRUSHES THE PEOPLE BELOW!
GOT IT! BUT I CAN'T LET GO -- AND THOSE THUGS SUDDENLY POPPED UP TO GRAB THE GUESTS' JEWELS!
OKAY -- WE'VE GOT ENOUGH! LET'S BEAT IT!
THUS, BY THE TIME PANIC CEASES...
BRUCE, YOU'VE SAVED MANY LIVES -- BUT YOU'RE HURT!
WORSE THAN THAT, THE JEWEL THIEVES ESCAPED! FUNNY... THEY SEEMED TO KNOW EXACTLY WHEN THE MODEL WOULD ROLL DOWN AND CAUSE ALL THAT COMMOTION!
2

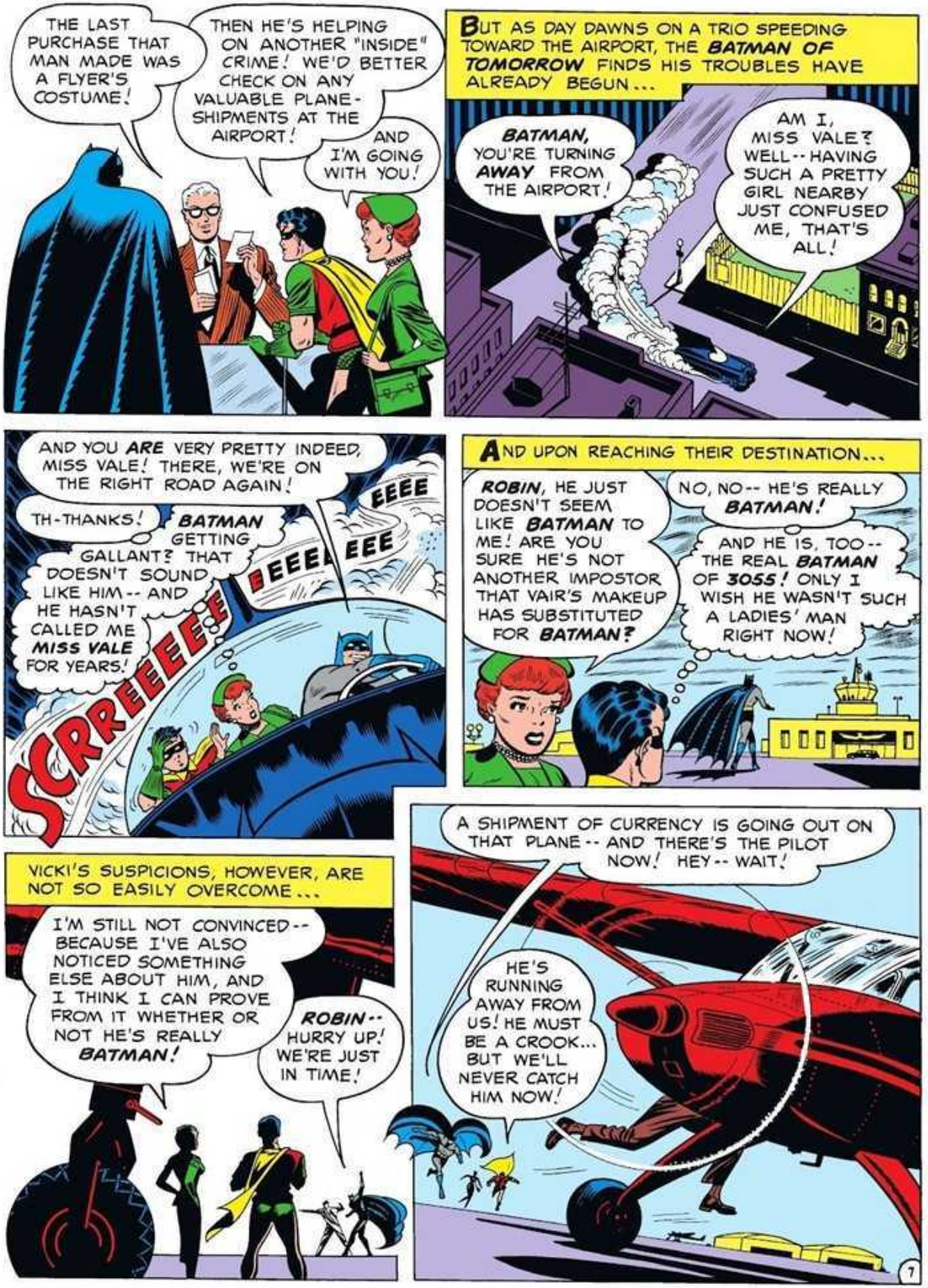
THAT MODEL COULD HARDLY HAVE TIPPED OVER ACCIDENTALLY! VICKI, YOU WERE TAKING PHOTOS AT THE TIME... MAYBE ONE OF THEM REVEALS SOMETHING!
I'LL SOON FIND OUT! YOU GET YOUR ARM TREATED, AND I'LL HAVE THE FILMS DEVELOPED AT ONCE!
SOME TIME LATER, IN THE OFFICES OF VUE MAGAZINE...
LOOK WHAT THIS BLOWN-UP PICTURE SHOWS... JACKSON BARROW, WEALTHY BANKER WHO WAS AT THE BALL, TIPPING OVER THE MODEL!
WOW! I'M GOING TO FIND BATMAN AND TELL HIM ABOUT THIS BEFORE I TAKE MY BAD ARM HOME, VICKI!
VUE
AND IN A SHADOWY ALLEY OUTSIDE, WHERE ROBIN AWAITS HIM, BRUCE UNDERGOES A PAINFUL CHANGE OF GARB...
OUCH! THIS ARM IS REALLY SORE! I'LL KEEP IT HIDDEN UNDER MY CAPE... I WANT TO SEE JACKSON BARROW AT ONCE!
A BANKER LIKE THAT HELPING BANDITS! IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE!
IT IS IMPOSSIBLE, AS JACKSON BARROW SOON PROVES...
YOU'VE PROVED YOU WERE NEVER AT THE BALL, BUT YOU WERE DECOYED DOWNTOWN BY A PHONY CALL -- WHICH MEANS A DOUBLE OF YOURS WAS THERE, MR. BARROW!
BATMAN, QUICK -- HERE COMES VICKI! SHE MUSTN'T SEE YOU!
SWIFTLY, THE TWO BEAT A HASTY RETREAT...
THAT WAS CLOSE! IF VICKI GLIMPSED MY SPRAINED ARM, SHE'D KNOW I'M BRUCE WAYNE! IT SEEMS SHE'S GOING TO FOLLOW UP THIS STORY!
THEN THE "INSIDE" HELP THIS MOB USES ARE DOUBLES CREATED BY DISGUISE WHO CAN GET INTO THE PLACES THEY ROB!
AFTERWARD, IN THE BAT-CAVE'S CRIME LAB...
ACCORDING TO OUR FILES, ONLY ONE MAN COULD CREATE SUCH DOUBLES... MARTIN VAIR, THEATRICAL MAKEUP EXPERT, WHO WENT TO PRISON FOR THEFT BUT ESCAPED BY MEANS OF A DISGUISE! HE MUST BE THE MAKEUP MAN FOR THE MOBS!
THEN WE'VE GOT TO HUNT DOWN VAIR!

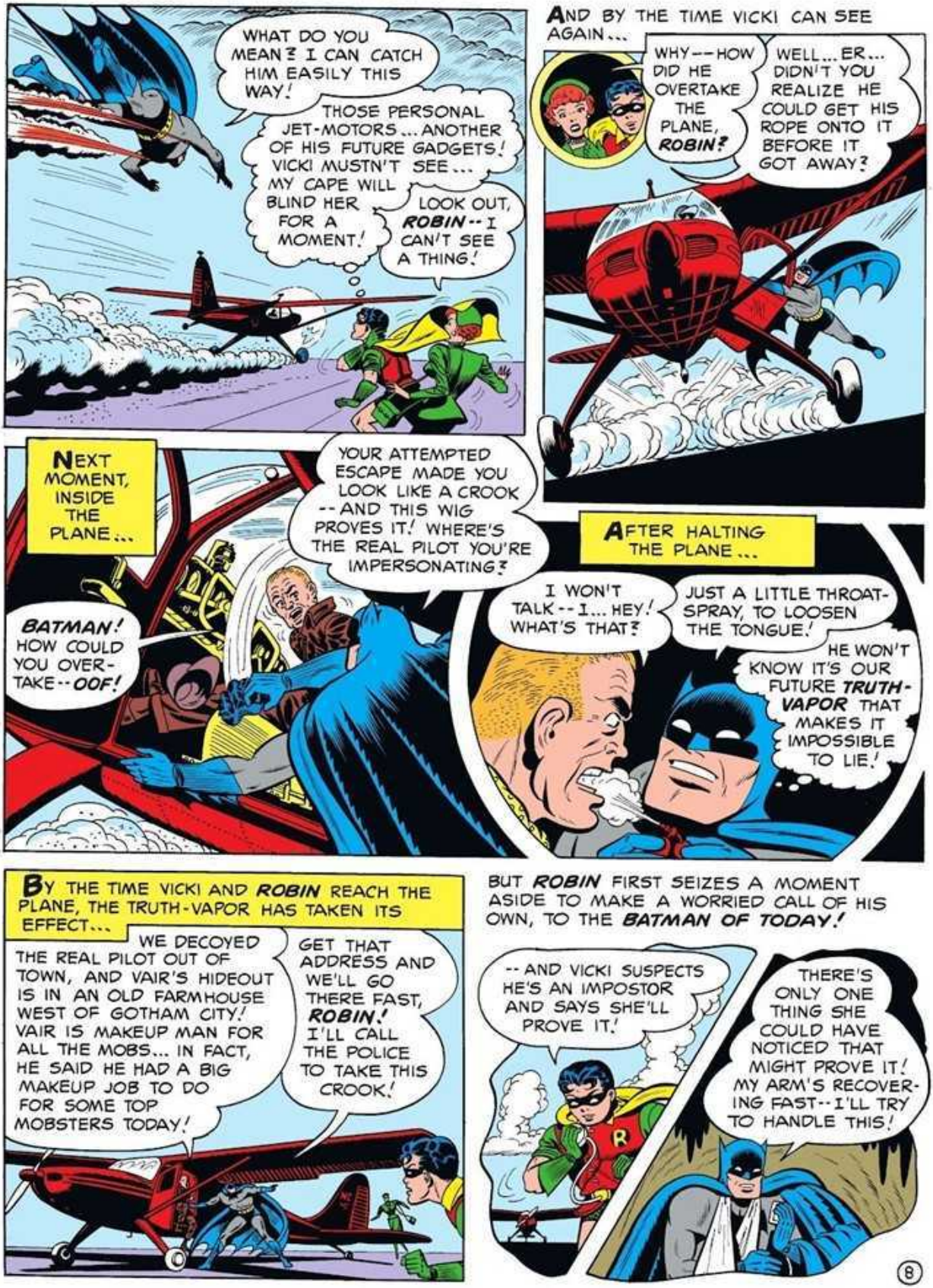
TROUBLE IS, I CAN'T GO AFTER VAIR WITH VICKI SNOOPING ON THIS CASE! SHE'D DISCOVER MY BAD ARM, AND MY IDENTITY WOULD BE EXPOSED!
IF ONLY WE COULD SUBSTITUTE SOMEONE FOR YOU, WITHOUT REVEALING YOUR IDENTITY TO THAT PERSON!
WAIT -- THERE'S SOMEONE ALREADY KNOWS YOUR IDENTITY AND WHO COULD TAKE YOUR PLACE TILL YOUR ARM'S BETTER... BRANE TAYLOR!
YOU MEAN THAT BATMAN FROM THE FUTURE?
"SURE! REMEMBER HOW HE CAME IN HIS TIME-MACHINE FROM THE 31ST CENTURY SEEKING YOUR HELP..."
"HE HAD COME FOR MY HELP AT FIRST..."
YES, THERE'S A BATMAN AND ROBIN IN THE YEAR 3054, TOO! I STUDIED ACCOUNTS OF YOUR EXPLOITS AND TRAINED MYSELF AND MY YOUNG NEPHEW TO FIGHT CRIME THE SAME WAY!
MY ROBIN WAS INJURED, SO I NEED THE ORIGINAL ROBIN TO HELP ME IN AN IMPORTANT CASE!
I'LL DO IT! I'LL GO BACK WITH YOU!
MY BAT-SHIP HAS ROUNDED THEM UP ON THIS ASTEROID, WITH YOUR HELP!
ALWAYS READY TO HELP ANOTHER BATMAN!
"NEVER WILL I FORGET THAT STRANGE WORLD OF THE BATMAN OF TOMORROW..."
INSTEAD OF YOUR BAT-CAVE, WE HAVE OUR SECRET BAT-BELFRY! YOU SEE, WE LIVE MUCH IN THE SKY AND SPACE!
I -- I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE MY EYES!
"AND I'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER THE CHASE FOR SPACE-CRIMINALS, IN WHICH I -- AND LATER YOU -- HELPED BRANE TAYLOR..."

SO THE BATMAN OF TOMORROW SOON STARTS FORTH WITH THE ROBIN OF TODAY ON A GRIM CHASE...

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BATMAN HAS NOTICED? WILL IT BETRAY THIS STRANGE IMPERSONATION?

LATER, AS THE BATMOBILE HURTLES TOWARD GOTHAM CITY, WITH A MAN OF THE FUTURE AT ITS WHEEL...
THIS OLD-FASHIONED GASOLINE CAR ISN'T MUCH LIKE OUR ATOMIC AUTOS-- BUT IT'S FAST!
LOOK OUT! THERE'S A FREIGHT TRAIN CROSSING THE ROAD UP AHEAD!
OH, I'LL JUST USE THE JET-ASSISTS TO JUMP OVER THAT OBSTACLE! BUT-- WHERE'S YOUR JET-ASSIST LEVER?
WE DON'T HAVE SUCH FUTURISTIC DEVICES ON TODAY'S CARS! HOLD ON... OUR ONLY HOPE IS TO SKID AROUND!
WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE! GUESS I'LL HAVE TO BE MORE CAREFUL BACK HERE IN 1955!
YES, YOU MUST REMEMBER THAT WE DON'T HAVE ALL THE SUPER-SCIENTIFIC GADGETS OF YOUR TIME!
SCREEEECH!
SHORTLY, WHEN THEY REACH THE CITY...
VAIR MUST BUY HIS MAKEUP MATERIALS HERE-- THE LARGEST THEATRICAL SUPPLY COMPANY IN GOTHAM CITY!
I SEE THEY STAY OPEN AT NIGHT, FOR THEATRICAL TRADE!
THEATRICAL COSTUMES AND MAKEUP SUPPLY CO.
TILL 10 PM
AND INSIDE, VAIR'S PRISON "MUG-SHOT" GETS AN INSTANT RESPONSE...
YES, THAT MAN BOUGHT SUPPLIES AND A COSTUME RECENTLY! I'LL CHECK OUR SALES SLIP!
SO! YOU HAD THE SAME IDEA I DID TO TRAIL THIS MAKEUP CROOK!
WHO-?
SHH... IT'S VICKI VALE, THE GIRL WE TOLD YOU ABOUT!
OH... ER... WHAT I MEANT TO SAY WAS-- WHO WOULD EXPECT TO FIND ANYONE SO LOVELY INTERESTED IN WIGS AND MAKEUP?
WHAT--?
THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE BATMAN-- HE NEVER GOT SO ROMANTIC BEFORE!
6


THE LAST PURCHASE THAT MAN MADE WAS A FLYER'S COSTUME!
THEN HE'S HELPING ON ANOTHER "INSIDE" CRIME! WE'D BETTER CHECK ON ANY VALUABLE PLANE-SHIPMENTS AT THE AIRPORT!
AND I'M GOING WITH YOU!
BUT AS DAY DAWNS ON A TRIO SPEEDING TOWARD THE AIRPORT, THE BATMAN OF TOMORROW FINDS HIS TROUBLES HAVE ALREADY BEGUN...
BATMAN, YOU'RE TURNING AWAY FROM THE AIRPORT!
AM I, MISS VALE? WELL -- HAVING SUCH A PRETTY GIRL NEARBY JUST CONFUSED ME, THAT'S ALL!
AND YOU ARE VERY PRETTY INDEED, MISS VALE! THERE, WE'RE ON THE RIGHT ROAD AGAIN!
TH-THANKS!
BATMAN GETTING GALLANT? THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE HIM -- AND HE HASN'T CALLED ME MISS VALE FOR YEARS!
EEEE
EEEE
EEE
SCRREEEE!
AND UPON REACHING THEIR DESTINATION...
ROBIN, HE JUST DOESN'T SEEM LIKE BATMAN TO ME! ARE YOU SURE HE'S NOT ANOTHER IMPOSTOR THAT VAIR'S MAKEUP HAS SUBSTITUTED FOR BATMAN?
NO, NO -- HE'S REALLY BATMAN!
AND HE IS, TOO -- THE REAL BATMAN OF 3055! ONLY I WISH HE WASN'T SUCH A LADIES' MAN RIGHT NOW!
VICKI'S SUSPICIONS, HOWEVER, ARE NOT SO EASILY OVERCOME...
I'M STILL NOT CONVINCED -- BECAUSE I'VE ALSO NOTICED SOMETHING ELSE ABOUT HIM, AND I THINK I CAN PROVE FROM IT WHETHER OR NOT HE'S REALLY BATMAN!
ROBIN -- HURRY UP! WE'RE JUST IN TIME!
A SHIPMENT OF CURRENCY IS GOING OUT ON THAT PLANE -- AND THERE'S THE PILOT NOW! HEY -- WAIT!
HE'S RUNNING AWAY FROM US! HE MUST BE A CROOK... BUT WE'LL NEVER CATCH HIM NOW!
7


WHAT DO YOU MEAN? I CAN CATCH HIM EASILY THIS WAY!
THOSE PERSONAL JET-MOTORS... ANOTHER OF HIS FUTURE GADGETS! VICKI MUSTN'T SEE... MY CAPE WILL BLIND HER FOR A MOMENT!
LOOK OUT, ROBIN -- I CAN'T SEE A THING!
AND BY THE TIME VICKI CAN SEE AGAIN...
WHY -- HOW DID HE OVERTAKE THE PLANE, ROBIN?
WELL... ER... DIDN'T YOU REALIZE HE COULD GET HIS ROPE ONTO IT BEFORE IT GOT AWAY?
NEXT MOMENT, INSIDE THE PLANE...
YOUR ATTEMPTED ESCAPE MADE YOU LOOK LIKE A CROOK -- AND THIS WIG PROVES IT! WHERE'S THE REAL PILOT YOU'RE IMPERSONATING?
BATMAN! HOW COULD YOU OVER-TAKE -- OOF!
AFTER HALTING THE PLANE...
I WON'T TALK -- I... HEY! WHAT'S THAT?
JUST A LITTLE THROAT-SPRAY, TO LOOSEN THE TONGUE!
HE WON'T KNOW IT'S OUR FUTURE TRUTH-VAPOR THAT MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE TO LIE!
BY THE TIME VICKI AND ROBIN REACH THE PLANE, THE TRUTH-VAPOR HAS TAKEN ITS EFFECT...
WE DECOYED THE REAL PILOT OUT OF TOWN, AND VAIR'S HIDEOUT IS IN AN OLD FARMHOUSE WEST OF GOTHAM CITY! VAIR IS MAKEUP MAN FOR ALL THE MOBS... IN FACT, HE SAID HE HAD A BIG MAKEUP JOB TO DO FOR SOME TOP MOBSTERS TODAY!
GET THAT ADDRESS AND WE'LL GO THERE FAST, ROBIN! I'LL CALL THE POLICE TO TAKE THIS CROOK!
BUT ROBIN FIRST SEIZES A MOMENT ASIDE TO MAKE A WORRIED CALL OF HIS OWN, TO THE BATMAN OF TODAY!
-- AND VICKI SUSPECTS HE'S AN IMPOSTOR AND SAYS SHE'LL PROVE IT!
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING SHE COULD HAVE NOTICED THAT MIGHT PROVE IT! MY ARM'S RECOVER-ING FAST -- I'LL TRY TO HANDLE THIS!

SOON, NEAR AN ISOLATED FARM-HOUSE OUTSIDE GOTHAM CITY...
VICKI, WON'T YOU GO HOME? THIS COULD BE DANGEROUS IF VAIR'S INSIDE!
I STILL THINK YOUR BATMAN'S AN IMPOSTOR, AND I WON'T LEAVE! NOW HOW CAN WE GET INTO THAT HOUSE WITHOUT VAIR SEEING US?
THE BATMAN OF TOMORROW HAS HIS OWN IDEAS ABOUT THAT...
I'LL USE MY INVISIBILITY-REFRACTOR TO GET IN THERE -- THE SAME WAY I GOT TO THE CHIEF OF THOSE ASTEROID PIRATES.
NO--!
SHE'S COMING! QUICK -- BECOME VISIBLE AGAIN, WHEN SHE'S NOT LOOKING, OR SHE'LL CATCH ON TO EVERYTHING!
ROBIN, WHERE'S BATMAN? HAS HE SLIPPED AWAY TO WARN VAIR?
WHEW! THAT'S BETTER! BUT VICKI HAS GIVEN US AWAY, SO WE MIGHT AS WELL RUSH THE HOUSE!
TOO BAD... WITH MY PERSONAL JETS, I COULD BE THERE IN A SECOND!
WITH THE TENACIOUS VICKI BEHIND THEM, THE DUO SOON CRASHES INTO A MAKEUP MOBSTER'S HEADQUARTERS...
BATMAN AND ROBIN! THANK GOODNESS YOU'VE COME! VAIR HAS LEFT ME TIED HERE FOR HOURS! I'M AN OFFICIAL OF GOTHAM BANK... HE MADE UP LIKE ME AND TOOK OFF!
THEN WE'RE TOO LATE TO CATCH VAIR HERE! WE'LL RELEASE THIS MAN AND GO TO THAT BANK!
WAIT A MINUTE, BATMAN! NOTICE THE TEETH-MARKS ON THOSE WRIST-BONDS? THEY MEAN HE TIED HIMSELF UP, AND PULLED THE CORDS TIGHT WITH HIS TEETH!
BUT WHY WOULD A BANK OFFICIAL DO THAT?
9

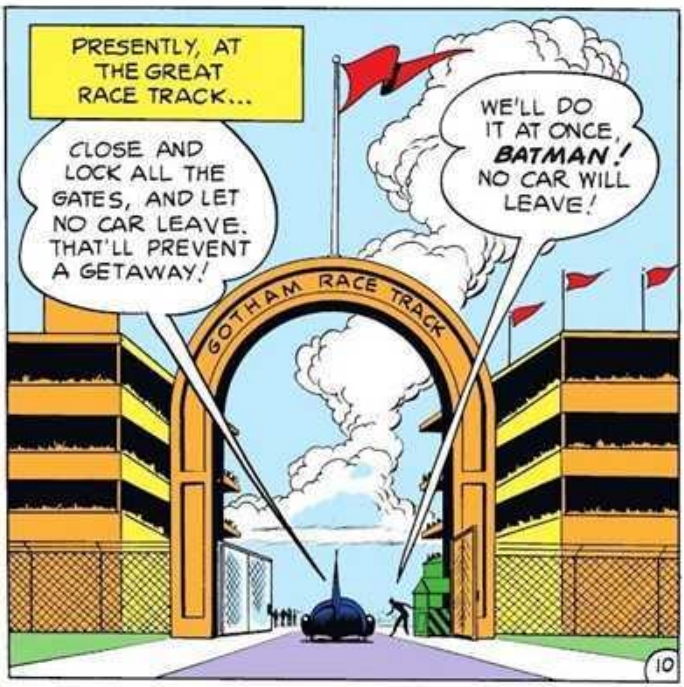
BECAUSE HE'S MARTIN VAIR! WHEN HE SAW US COMING, HE QUICKLY DISGUISED HIMSELF AND PRETENDED TO BE A CAPTIVE TO FOOL US!
WHY-- I NEVER DREAMED OF THAT!
BATMAN WOULD SEE THAT TRICK AS QUICKLY AS ROBIN DID-- WHICH MEANS THIS FELLOW ISN'T BATMAN! HE WAS TRYING TO FREE VAIR!

YOU MADE UP MOBSTERS FOR A BIG JOB TODAY! WHAT WAS IT?
I'M NOT TALKING!
TSK, TSK... CAN'T USE MY TRUTH-VAPOR IN FRONT OF MISS VALE!

A HASTY SEARCH OF THE MAKEUP STUDIO FINALLY YIELDS A CLUE...
THESE PHOTOS--SMEARED WITH FRESH MAKEUP... HE USED THEM TONIGHT AS MODELS! HE DISGUISED CROOKS AS THESE MEN!
BUT THERE'S NO WAY OF TELLING WHO THEY ARE!

YES THERE IS! THEY'RE OFFICIALS OR EMPLOYEES OF GOTHAM RACE TRACK! SEE THE LITTLE TRACK-BADGES EACH ONE WEARS?
THAT CLINCHES IT! BATMAN WOULDN'T HAVE MISSED THAT-- SO HE IS AN IMPOSTOR! I'LL EXPOSE HIM!

BETTER GET TO THE RACE TRACK FAST! THERE'S A BIG RACE TODAY... THEY EXPECT TO TAKE IN OVER $1,000,000!
I'LL CALL THE POLICE TOO!
AND ALSO CONTACT BATMAN BY BELT-RADIO! I DON'T LIKE THE LOOK IN VICKI'S EYES!


PRESENTLY, AT THE GREAT RACE TRACK...
CLOSE AND LOCK ALL THE GATES, AND LET NO CAR LEAVE. THAT'LL PREVENT A GETAWAY!
WE'LL DO IT AT ONCE, BATMAN! NO CAR WILL LEAVE!
GOTHAM RACE TRACK

SECONDS LATER, IN THE TRACK OFFICES...
STOP THOSE MEN -- THEY'RE CROOKS!
ARE YOU JOKING? THEY'RE SOME OF OUR MOST TRUSTED OFFICIALS WHO HANDLE THE RECEIPTS!

THEY'RE NOT! THEY'RE IMPOSTORS, DISGUISED BY A MAKEUP EXPERT!
VAIR MUST'VE SQUEALED ON US -- BUT THIS'LL BLOCK THEM TILL WE GET AWAY IN OUR CAR!
10 GATES

BUT OUTSIDE...
NO -- WE CAN STILL GET AWAY ON THESE RACE-HORSES THROUGH THE STABLES! NO CAR CAN FOLLOW US THROUGH THE NARROW HORSE-GATES!
HUH? BATMAN AND ROBIN CLOSED ALL THE GATES! WE'RE TRAPPED!

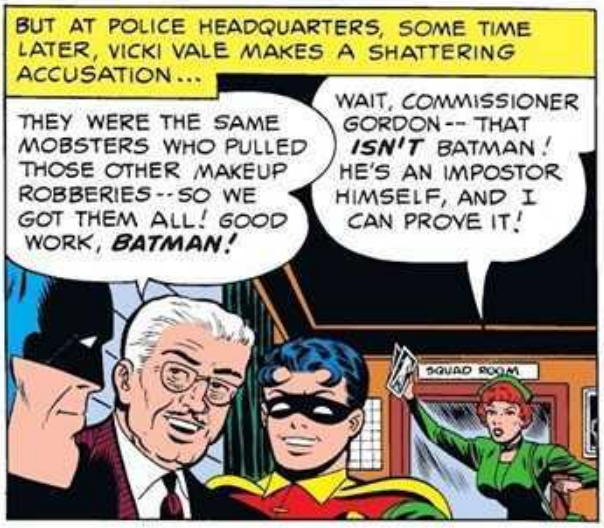
THEY'RE GETTING AWAY ON HORSES! QUICK, BATMAN -- WE CAN RUN THEM DOWN ON HORSES OURSELVES!
BUT I'VE NEVER RIDDEN SUCH A BEAST! NOBODY RIDES SUCH ANIMALS IN THE 31ST CENTURY! STILL -- I'LL TRY!

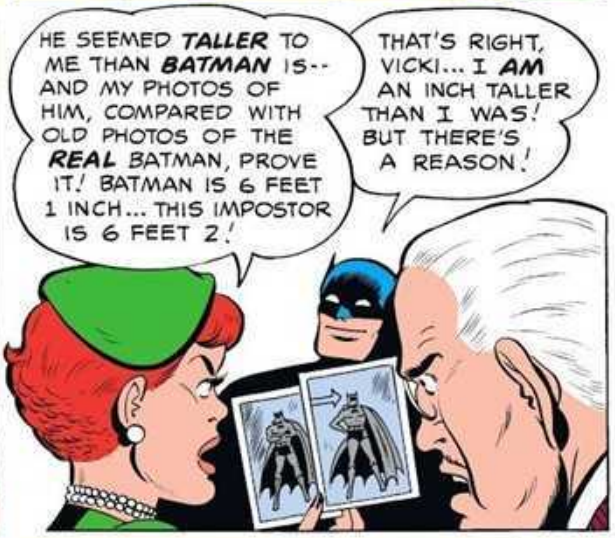
IT'S A VALIANT TRY -- BUT A MAN WHO'S AT HOME IN SPACE SHIPS FINDS A HORSE A FEARSOME THING...
THIS TERRIBLE BEAST IS RUNNING ME RIGHT INTO THE FENCE! I DON'T KNOW HOW TO STEER IT, AND IT CAN'T JUMP THAT FENCE!
YOUR PERSONAL JET-MOTORS ARE YOUR ONLY CHANCE!

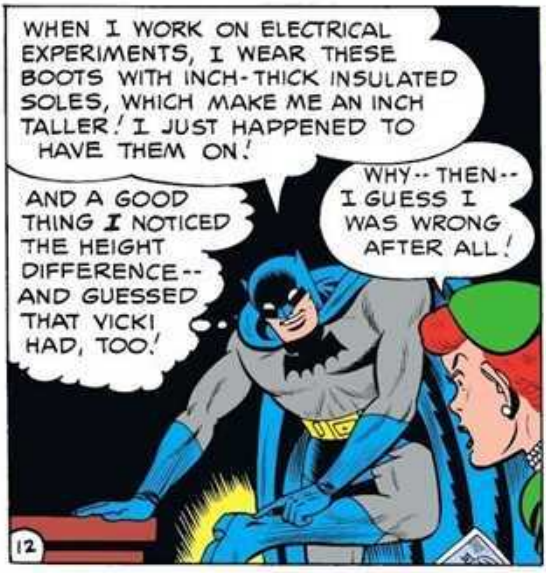
AND AS POWERFUL JETS THRUST DOWNWARD...
MADE IT!
IN A WAY, IT'S A PITY NO ONE'S AROUND TO SEE THAT JUMP! IT'S A WORLD'S RECORD!

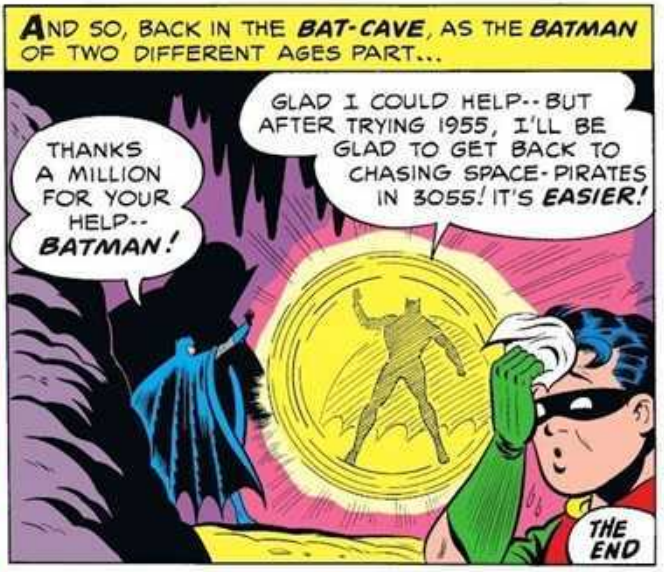
NEXT MOMENT, AS TWIN AVENGERS THUNDER DOWN ON FLEEING HOODS...
WE'VE KNOCKED THEM OFF THEIR HORSES! THEY'RE TOO GROGGY TO TRY ANYTHING ELSE!
AND SO AM I... I'M FALLING OFF!

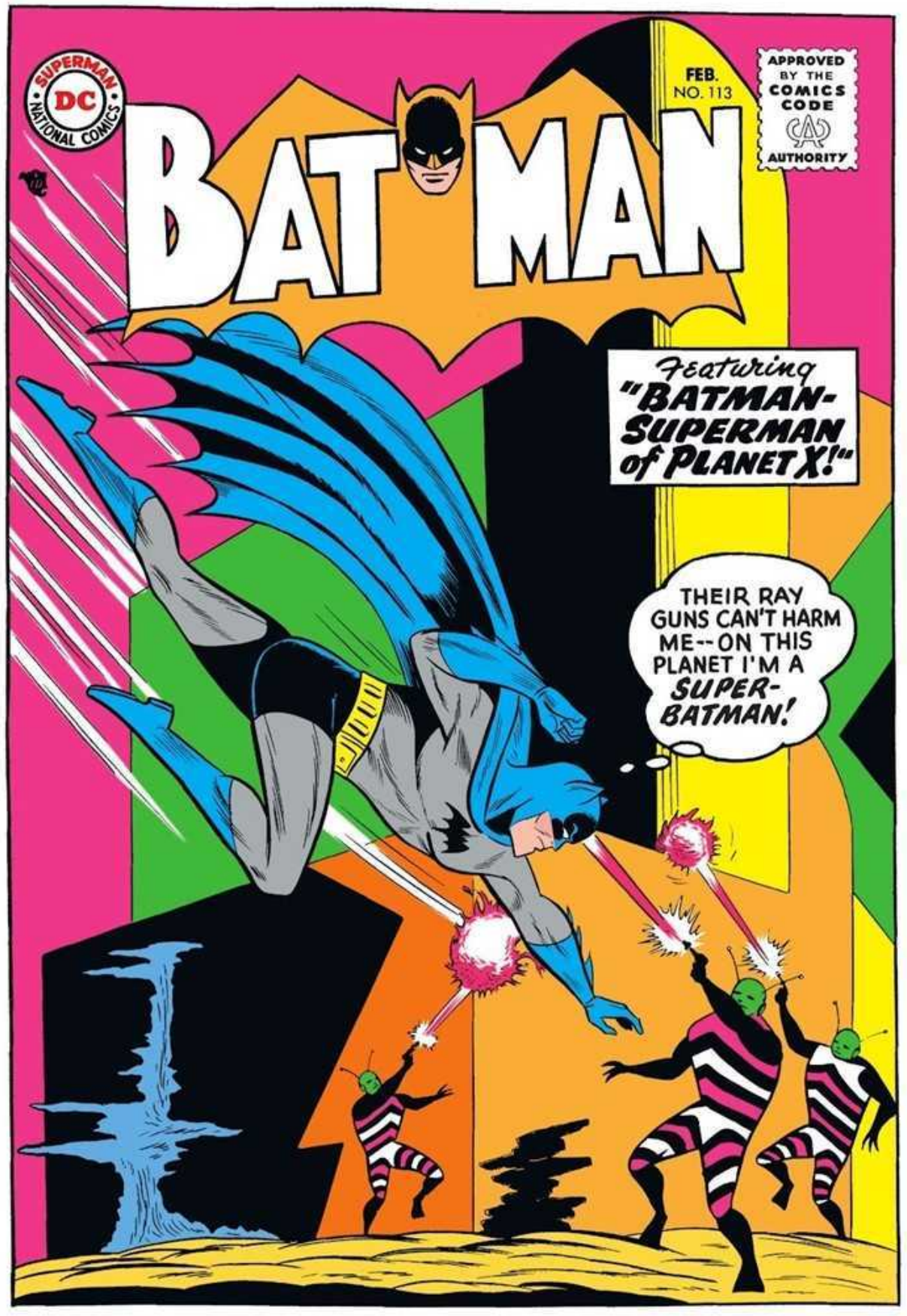
BATMAN OF 1955! IS YOUR ARM BETTER?
YES -- THANKS TO YOUR SCIENTIFIC MASSAGE! I GOT ROBIN'S CALL, AND I'M JUST IN TIME TO TAKE OVER AGAIN! YOU'LL FIND THE BAT-PLANE IN THOSE TREES... SEE YOU IN THE BAT-CAVE LATER!


BUT AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, SOME TIME LATER, VICKI VALE MAKES A SHATTERING ACCUSATION...
THEY WERE THE SAME MOBSTERS WHO PULLED THOSE OTHER MAKEUP ROBBERIES -- SO WE GOT THEM ALL! GOOD WORK, BATMAN!
WAIT, COMMISSIONER GORDON -- THAT ISN'T BATMAN! HE'S AN IMPOSTOR HIMSELF, AND I CAN PROVE IT!
SQUAD ROOM


HE SEEMED TALLER TO ME THAN BATMAN IS -- AND MY PHOTOS OF HIM, COMPARED WITH OLD PHOTOS OF THE REAL BATMAN, PROVE IT! BATMAN IS 6 FEET 1 INCH... THIS IMPOSTOR IS 6 FEET 2!
THAT'S RIGHT, VICKI... I AM AN INCH TALLER THAN I WAS! BUT THERE'S A REASON!


WHEN I WORK ON ELECTRICAL EXPERIMENTS, I WEAR THESE BOOTS WITH INCH-THICK INSULATED SOLES, WHICH MAKE ME AN INCH TALLER! I JUST HAPPENED TO HAVE THEM ON!
AND A GOOD THING I NOTICED THE HEIGHT DIFFERENCE -- AND GUESSED THAT VICKI HAD, TOO!
WHY -- THEN -- I GUESS I WAS WRONG AFTER ALL!
12


AND SO, BACK IN THE BAT-CAVE, AS THE BATMAN OF TWO DIFFERENT AGES PART...
THANKS A MILLION FOR YOUR HELP -- BATMAN!
GLAD I COULD HELP -- BUT AFTER TRYING 1955, I'LL BE GLAD TO GET BACK TO CHASING SPACE-PIRATES IN 3055! IT'S EASIER!
THE END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BATMAN
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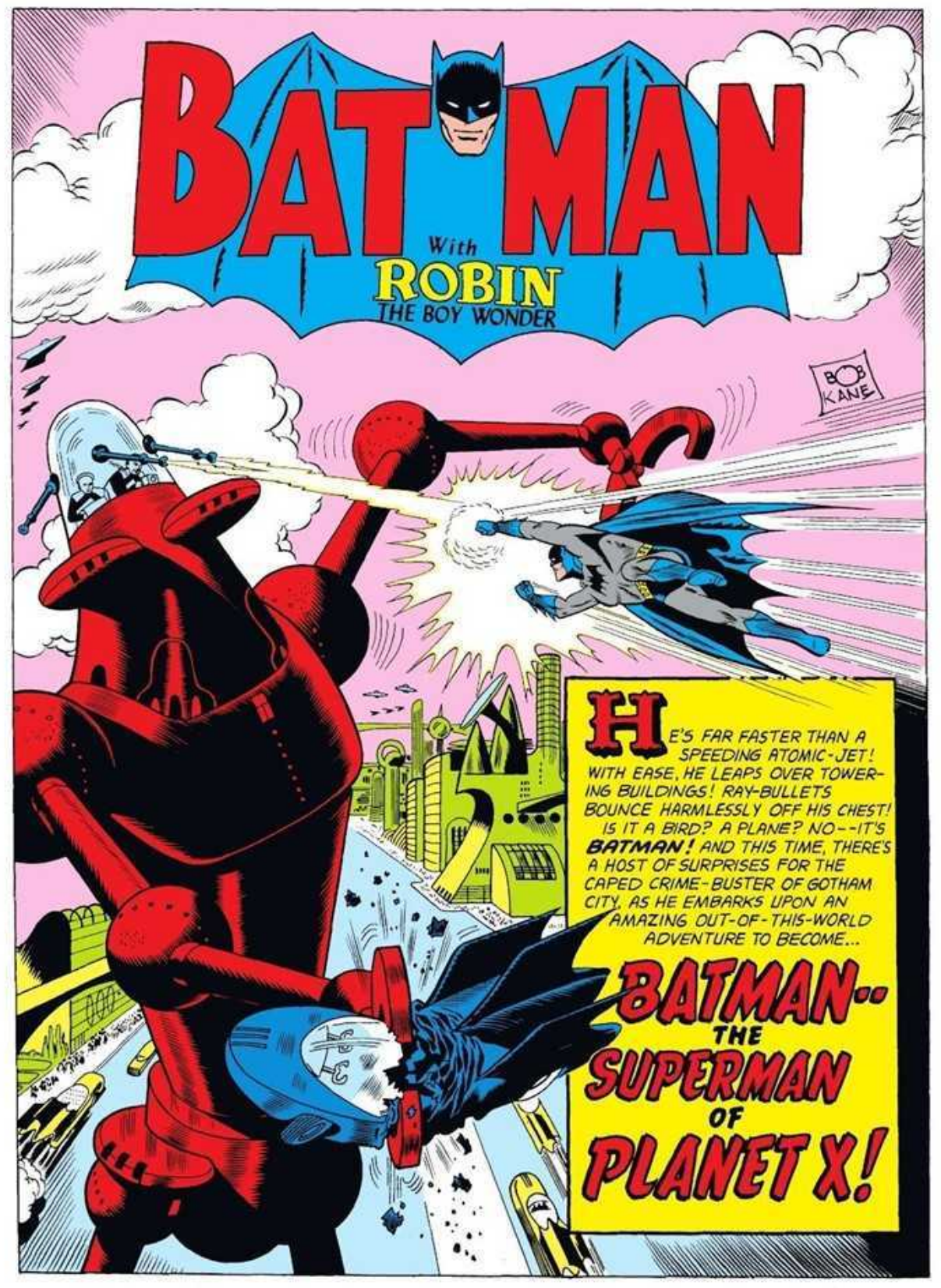
NO. 113
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
Featuring "BATMAN-SUPERMAN of PLANET X!"
THEIR RAY GUNS CAN'T HARM ME--ON THIS PLANET I'M A SUPER-BATMAN!


BATMAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
BOB KANE
HE'S FAR FASTER THAN A SPEEDING ATOMIC-JET! WITH EASE, HE LEAPS OVER TOWERING BUILDINGS! RAY-BULLETS BOUNCE HARMLESSLY OFF HIS CHEST! IS IT A BIRD? A PLANE? NO--IT'S BATMAN! AND THIS TIME, THERE'S A HOST OF SURPRISES FOR THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTER OF GOTHAM CITY, AS HE EMBARKS UPON AN AMAZING OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD ADVENTURE TO BECOME...
BATMAN-- THE SUPERMAN OF PLANET X!

AT HIS MANSION, WEALTHLY BRUCE WAYNE ARISES IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT--AND, WHILE DONNING A FAMILIAR COSTUME, STARES ODDLY AT HIS SLEEPING WARD, DICK GRAYSON...
STRANGE... DICK AND I ALWAYS GO OUT TOGETHER--AS BATMAN AND ROBIN! WHY AM I GOING ALONE TONIGHT?
SOON, IN THE SLEEK BAT-PLANE...
WHERE AM I GOING... AND WHY? EVERYTHING SEEMS SO VAGUE...
S-SOMETHING'S WRONG! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME? MY HEAD'S SPINNING...
AND, JUST AS SUDDENLY AS IT CAME, THE SPINNING SENSATION DEPARTS...
WHERE AM I? I'M NO LONGER IN THE BAT-PLANE...
WELCOME, BATMAN, TO THE PLANET ZUR-EN-ARRH! I HAVE MASTERED YOUR LANGUAGE--SO WE MAY TALK!
STUNNED, THE GREAT CRIME-FIGHTER STARES AT A STRANGE FIGURE--AN UNEARTHLY LIKENESS OF HIMSELF!
THE PLANET ZUR-EN-ARRH?
YES--LOCATED IN A STAR SYSTEM FAR FROM YOURS! I DOUBT IF YOUR ASTRONOMERS KNOW OF OUR EXISTENCE!
I BROUGHT YOU HERE BY TELEPORTATION--BODILY TRANSMISSION THROUGH SPACE! MY WORLD NEEDS YOU!
BUT THAT COSTUME YOU WEAR... YOU LOOK LIKE A FUTURISTIC VERSION OF ME!
TRUE... AND THAT'S BECAUSE I'M THE BATMAN OF ZUR-EN-ARRH! THROUGH A POWERFUL TELESCOPE, I'VE OBSERVED YOUR EVERY ACTION! IT INSPIRED ME TO PLAY THE SAME ROLE HERE!
2

LIKE YOU, I HAVE ANOTHER IDENTITY-- TLANO, THE SCIENTIST! I'VE EVEN EMULATED YOUR BAT-CAVE!
INCREDIBLE!
HERE IS MY VERSION OF THE BATMOBILE, WITH AN ATOMIC-POWERED MOTOR... AND THERE'S MY BAT-PLANE!
YOUR SCIENCE CERTAINLY IS AHEAD OF OURS!
AND HERE IS THE MOST VALUABLE OBJECT IN MY UTILITY BELT... THE BAT-RADIA! IT ISSUES ELECTRONIC MOLECULES THAT CAUSE CONTROLLED DISTURBANCES IN THE ATMOSPHERE!
"WITH IT, I AM ABLE TO 'JAM' ATMOSPHERIC MOLECULES--EVEN RENDER USELESS THE MOTORS OF JET-CARS USED BY FLEEING ENEMIES..."
THEY'VE STALLED! NOW TO CLOSE IN ON THEM...
NORMALLY, I RECEIVE MY BAT-SIGNALS ON THIS TELE-VIEW SCREEN! BUT I WANT TO SHOW YOU, NOW, THE PROBLEM CONFRONTING MY WORLD...
THE SCREEN GLOWS DIMLY AT FIRST, THEN BRILLIANTLY, AS A PICTURE COMES INTO VIEW...
THERE THEY ARE--THE INVADERS FROM AN ENEMY PLANET! THEY HOPE TO DEFEAT US--OCCUPY OUR PLANET... AND OUR WEAPONS ARE NO MATCH FOR THEIRS!
BUT IF EVEN YOUR SCIENCE, WHICH IS SO FAR ADVANCED, CAN'T COPE WITH THEM, HOW CAN I HELP?
3

YOU'LL BE SURPRISED! WATCH WHEN I FIRE THIS POWERFUL RAY-GUN...
WAIT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
BZZZZT!
THESE RAY-BULLETS WOULD DESTROY ANYBODY ON OUR PLANET--BUT, OBSERVE... THEY BOUNCE OFF YOU!
FANTASTIC! WHY?
BECAUSE THE ELEMENTS IN YOUR WORLD MAKE YOUR PEOPLE A RACE OF SUPER-CREATURES, COMPARED TO US! HERE--TRY BENDING THIS METAL... ONE OF THE HARDEST ALLOYS KNOWN TO US!
I CAN TWIST IT LIKE TAFFY CANDY!
BUT NO MORTAL ON MY PLANET CAN DO THAT! NOW--COME OUTSIDE... I'LL SHOW YOU SOMETHING ELSE!
REQUESTED TO LEAP AS HIGH AS HE CAN, BATMAN SAILS FAR INTO THE AIR...
GREAT GUNS! I CAN FLY ALMOST LIKE A BIRD!
YES... OUR RELATIVELY WEAK GRAVITY IS NO MATCH FOR YOUR EARTHIAN MUSCLES!
YOU'RE RIGHT! HERE ON YOUR PLANET, I BECOME LIKE MY FRIEND SUPERMAN ON EARTH!
WHICH IS MY REASON FOR SUMMONING YOU... AND NONE TOO SOON! ALREADY THE INVASION HAS STARTED! LISTEN...
KWHOOM!
BR-RRAM
4

IT WOULD BE FOLLY FOR MY PEOPLE TO STAND AGAINST SUCH SUPERIOR WEAPONS! THEY'RE EVACUATING THE CITY!
LATER, AS MOISTURE-ABSORBING RAY-CANNONS SET UP A GREAT FLAME WALL...
THE PEOPLE OF ZUR-EN-ARRH FLEE! NOW WE'LL BRING THEM TO QUICK SURRENDER--BY DRYING UP ALL THEIR RESERVOIRS!
BUT, AT THAT MOMENT, AN INCREDIBLE FIGURE SOARS HIGH IN THE AIR, ABOVE THE RAY-BLASTS...
EH--? WHAT KIND OF CREATURE IS THAT?
SCORNFUL OF THE FIERY RAYS, THE CAPED FIGURE SMASHES RIGHT INTO THE VERY MOUTHS OF THE CANNONS...
WHAT AN EYE-OPENER IT WOULD BE FOR SUPERMAN TO SEE ME NOW!
FIERY NUCLEAR ORBS, CAPABLE OF DISINTEGRATING ANYTHING IN THEIR PATH, ARE UNLEASHED BY THE INVADERS...
I WONDER HOW MY SUDDEN SUPER-STRENGTH CAN STAND UP TO THOSE BABIES...?
I'LL SOON FIND OUT...
...BY PLAYING A GAME OF SUPER-GOLF!
POW
5

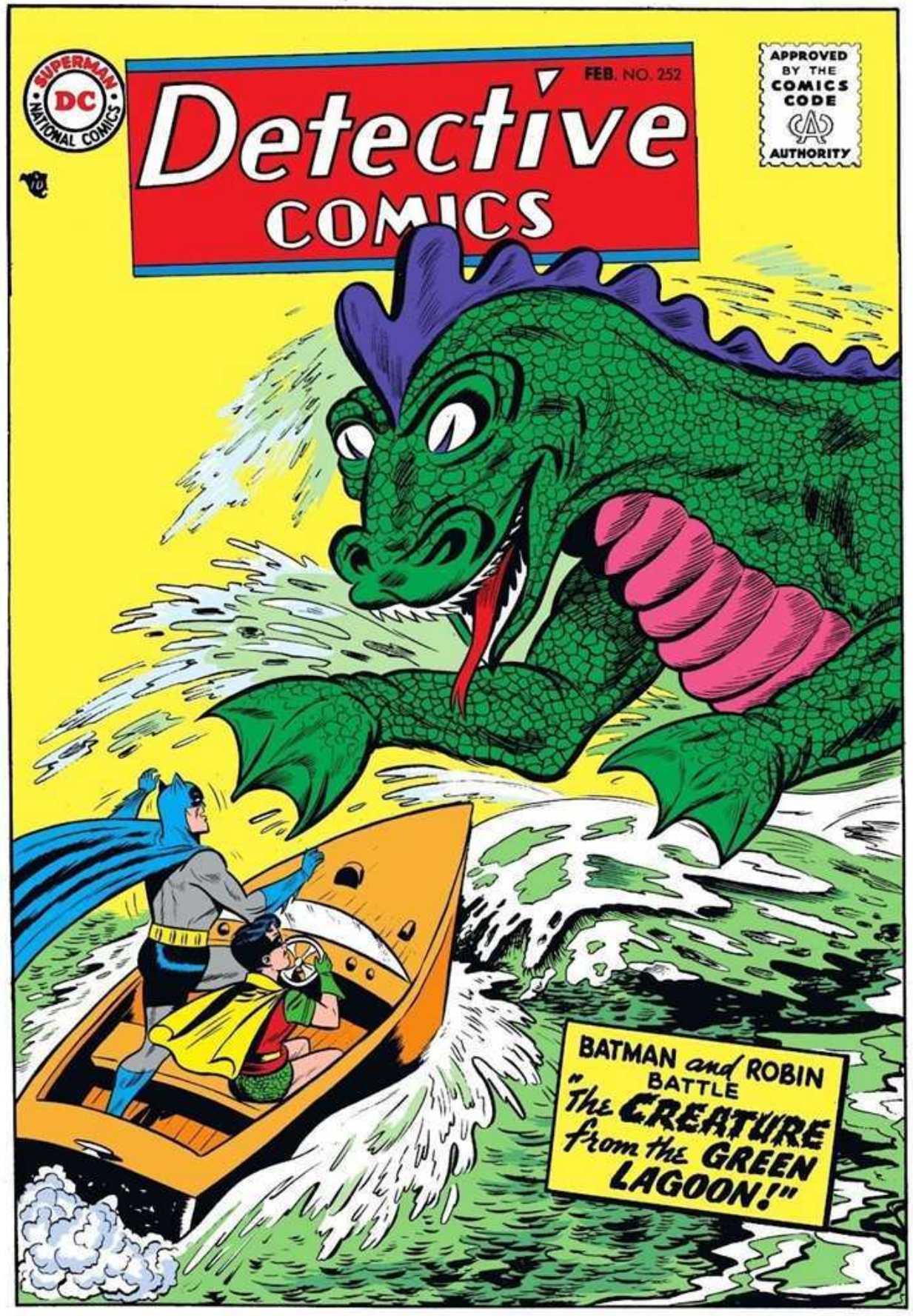
WE DIDN'T EXPECT ANY INHABITANT OF THIS PLANET TO BE SO POWERFUL!
NOW THEY STAND TO DO BATTLE... JUST WHAT I WANTED!
BZZZT
BZZZT!
BZZZT!
BUT, AS THE SUPER-BATMAN CLOSES IN...
WHY...WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THEM?
BZZZT!
BZZZT!
THEY'VE BECOME INVISIBLE! NOT EVEN MY NEW SUPER-POWERS CAN TOUCH THEM NOW! BUT MAYBE TLANO HAS AN ANSWER TO THIS!
BZZZT
BZZZT!
SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, AT THE BAT-CAVE...
I WAS ABLE TO WATCH YOUR SUCCESSFUL BATTLE--FOR AWHILE! THEN, FOR SOME REASON, THE PICTURE WENT WILD--AND FINALLY FADED OUT!
THEY'VE GOT A POWER WE HADN'T COUNTED ON--INVISIBILITY!
HAVE YOU ANY IDEA HOW WE CAN COPE WITH THIS INVISIBILITY?
AT THE MOMENT--NO! BUT, WAIT--ANOTHER PICTURE IS TAKING SHAPE NOW! THEY'VE BECOME VISIBLE AGAIN!
6

ONLY THIS TIME, A MORE FORMIDABLE FOE APPEARS...
TLANO! ROBOTS-- OPERATED BY THE INVADERS! THEY COULD PULVERIZE YOUR CITIES!
STAY HERE AND WORK ON A COUNTER-ACTION FOR THEIR INVISIBILITY, WHILE I TRY TO TACKLE THOSE ROBOTS!
A SPLIT SECOND LATER...
GOT TO STRIKE BEFORE THEY BECOME INVISIBLE AGAIN!
BUT, AT HIS CONTROL BOARD, AN INVADER PULLS A SWITCH --
-- SO THAT, BY THE TIME BATMAN ALIGHTS...
TOO LATE! NOW, EVEN THE ROBOTS ARE BECOMING INVISIBLE!
IT IS THEN THAT A GIANT, UNSEEN HAND CLUTCHES THE EARTHMAN...
CAN'T FIGHT SOMETHING I CAN'T SEE! I WONDER HOW MY PAL SUPERMAN WOULD HANDLE THIS SITUATION?
7

HO! WE WILL WRING THE VERY STRENGTH FROM THIS CREATURE -- THEN, WHEN HE IS WEAKENED, DESTROY HIM!
BUT THOUGH UNABLE TO SEE THE HUGE HAND WHICH CLUTCHES HIM, BATMAN CAN FEEL IT...
A SUPER-LEFT HOOK DID THE TRICK... THE HAND HAS LET GO!
CLANG
BUT I'M STILL HELPLESS TO BATTLE THEM, WHILE I CAN'T SEE THEM!
AT THIS MOMENT, IN THE BAT-CAVE, WHERE TLANO WATCHES THE SCREEN...
THEY'VE BECOME INVISIBLE AGAIN... AND AGAIN, THE PICTURE IS FADING! WHEN THEY USE THEIR INVISIBILITY POWERS, THE SCREEN IS AFFECTED! WHY?... I MUST FIND OUT!
WAIT! THE NEEDLES OF THE BAT-RADIA... THEY'RE SPINNING WILDLY! FIRST THE TELE-VIEW SCREEN... NOW THIS! I WONDER ...?
MINUTES LATER, THE BAT-JET ROARS AWAY...
I THINK I KNOW THE ANSWER TO HOW THE INVADERS BECOME INVISIBLE! AND I HAD BETTER BE RIGHT-- THERE IS SO LITTLE TIME!
SHORTLY, OVER THE CITY...
THE BAT-RADIA IS TURNED ON...THE ELECTRONIC MOLECULES ARE STREAMING FOURTH! THE ATMOSPHERE WILL BE DISTURBED--THEN I WILL KNOW IF MY THEORY IS RIGHT!

WHILE DOWN BELOW...
SOMETHING IS WRONG! WE ARE BECOMING VISIBLE AGAIN--AGAINST OUR WILL! SIGNAL A RETREAT!
AS THE ROBOTS SCATTER AND FLEE IN ALL DIRECTIONS...
THIS WRECKED RAY-BEAM TOWER GIVES ME AN IDEA... I THINK I CAN CORRAL THEM ALL AT ONCE!
SUPER-STRONG FINGERS EASILY CRUSH THE TOWER--AND, BY STRAINING THE METAL THROUGH HIS HANDS, BAT-MAN FASHIONS A LENGTH OF STRONG WIRE...
THIS STUNT OFTEN WORKS FOR SUPERMAN ON EARTH... NO REASON WHY IT CAN'T WORK FOR ME ON THIS PLANET!
SOON, WITH A MILE-LONG "LARIAT" THE SUPER-BATMAN AGAIN TAKES TO THE AIR...
THIS SHOULD BE ONE OF THE BIGGEST ROUND-UPS ON RECORD!
LASSOED AROUND THE ANKLES, THE ROBOTS CRASH TO THE GROUND...
FLEE! FLEE! TO THE ROCKET SHIPS!
THEN, AS A DIMINUTIVE BUT SUPER-POWERFUL FIGURE HOISTS THE METAL MONSTERS SKYWARD...
FOR THE COMPLETION OF THIS STUNT, WE'LL HAVE A...
...JUNK PILE!
CRASH!
9

THUS, WITH THE ROBOT FORCE DESTROYED...
THERE GO THE INVADERS, BATMAN-- AND HAPPY TO BE ON THEIR WAY!
WHAT'S MORE, I'M SURE WE NEED NEVER FEAR THEIR RETURN! THEY'VE SEEN ENOUGH OF YOU TO LAST THEM A LIFETIME!
I'M ANXIOUS TO KNOW HOW YOU SOLVED THE INVISIBILITY PROBLEM! THAT'S WHAT MADE VICTORY POSSIBLE!
SINCE THE TELE-VIEW SCREEN AND THE BAT-RADIA WERE AFFECTED WHENEVER THEY TURNED ON THE POWER, IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT THEY WERE USING AN ELECTRICAL FORCE TO BEND LIGHT RAYS AROUND THEM-- CAUSING INVISIBILITY!
THE ELECTRONIC-MOLECULAR SHOWER FROM THE BAT-RADIA OFFSET THEIR ELECTRIC FORCE, MAKING THEM VISIBLE AGAIN! BUT COME-- YOU MUST BE READY TO RETURN TO YOUR WORLD!
YES-- EVEN THOUGH IT HAS BEEN FUN PLAYING SUPERMAN ON YOUR PLANET!
LATER, AT THE BAT-CAVE...
I REALIZE YOU'D ACCEPT NO MORE THAN MY PLANET'S THANKS FOR WHAT YOU'VE DONE! BUT AT LEAST TAKE THE BAT-RADIA WITH YOU! IT WON'T WORK IN YOUR ATMOSPHERE-- BUT I'D LIKE IT TO BE IN YOUR TROPHY ROOM!
IT'LL BE A CONSTANT REMINDER OF ONE OF MY STRANGEST ADVENTURES!
TLANO THROWS A SWITCH-- AND, INSTANTLY, BATMAN IS BACK OVER GOTHAM CITY...
IN THE BAT-PLANE AGAIN! WHY, I'VE ONLY BEEN GONE FOR A FEW SECONDS-- WHICH WERE HOURS ON PLANET X!
IT WOULD BE FAR EASIER TO CONSIDER THIS A DREAM ... BUT HOW CAN I? FOR IN MY HAND, I HOLD THE BAT-RADIA!
10
THE End


SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
FEB. NO. 252
Detective
COMICS
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
BATMAN and ROBIN BATTLE "The CREATURE from the GREEN LAGOON!"

BATMAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
I CAN'T ESCAPE THIS FANTASTIC CREATURE MUCH LONGER-- AND IF I SURFACE, IT WILL SURELY MEAN MY DOOM!
APPARENTLY, THE ISLAND LEGEND WAS TRUE-- FOR OUT OF THE DEPTHS OF TIME STALKED A FANTASTIC, INVULNERABLE BEAST! COULD THE MODERN-DAY SKILLS OF BATMAN AND ROBIN COPE WITH THIS THING FROM THE PAST? OR WOULD THEY, TOO, FALL VICTIM TO...
THE CREATURE FROM THE GREEN LAGOON
BOB KANE

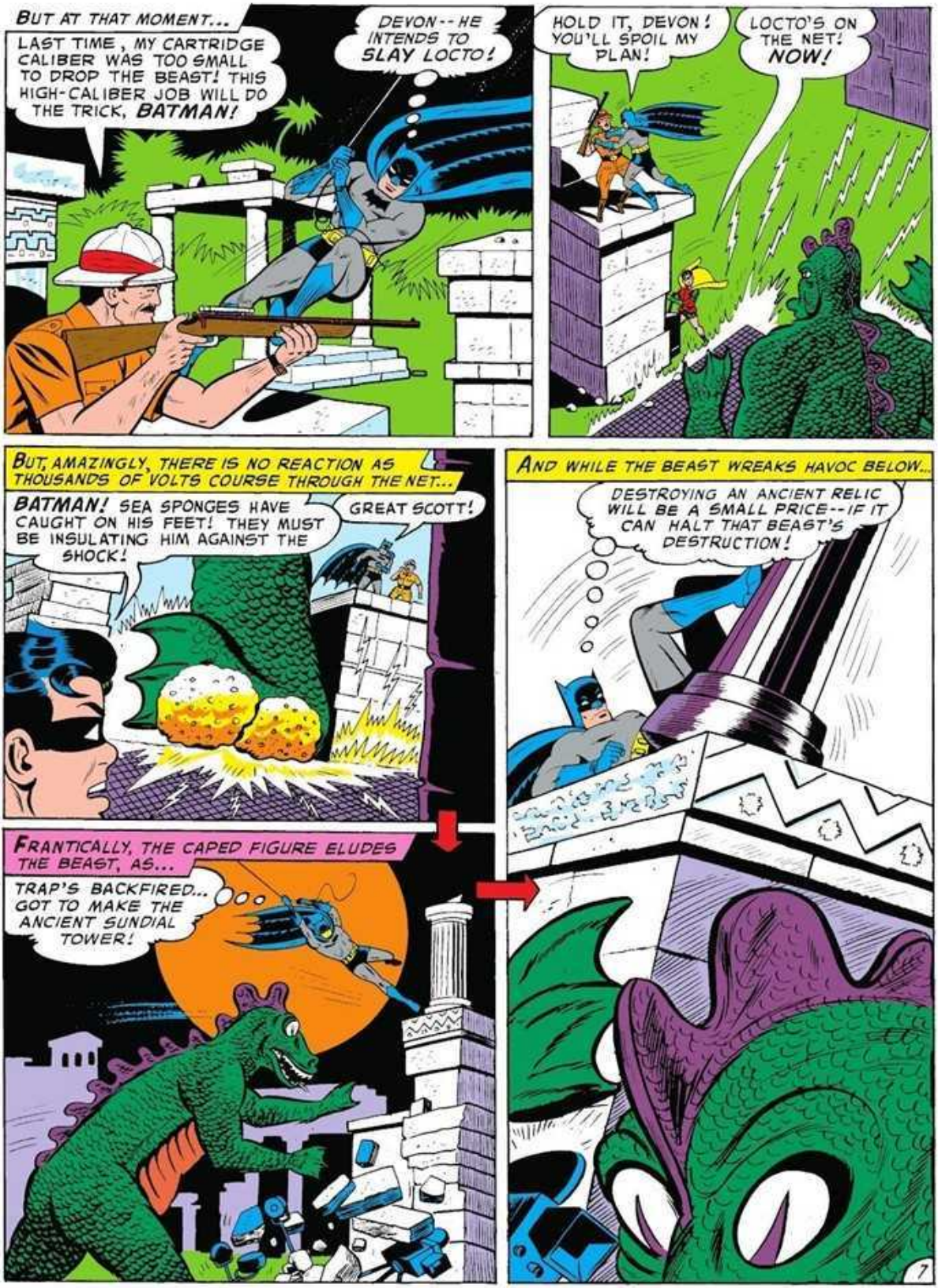
FAR OUT OVER THE PACIFIC SOARS THE FAMED BAT-PLANE...
HERE WE ARE, BATMAN... OUR DESTINATION-- SKULL ISLAND!
RIGHT, ROBIN-- AND I'M CERTAINLY ANXIOUS TO LEARN WHY MY FILM-PRODUCER FRIEND, CORY BLANE, IS SO ANXIOUS TO SEE US!
SHORTLY, A TENSE FIGURE GREETS THE DYNAMIC DUO...
THANK GOODNESS YOU'VE COME, BATMAN! LET'S HEAD BACK TO MY FILM QUARTERS!
GOSH, HE'S SURE HAPPY TO SEE BATMAN! WONDER WHAT'S UP?
AND AS THE THREE HEAD TOWARD A FRIENDLY NATIVE VILLAGE...
THAT FANTASTIC WALL-- CUTTING OFF THE ENTIRE SOUTH SIDE OF THE VILLAGE... WHAT'S ITS PURPOSE, BLANE?
YOU'LL LEARN PRESENTLY, BATMAN... THAT'S WHY I SENT FOR YOU! BUT FIRST, I WANT YOU TO MEET MY ASSOCIATES!
WHEN THEY REACH THE FILM LOCATION TENT...
BATMAN, MEET OUR TECHNICAL ADVISERS, PROFESSOR CARTER, BIG-GAME HUNTER CHARLES DEVON, AND MY ASSISTANT, TOD MARTIN!
GLAD TO KNOW YOU, GENTLEMEN!
WE CAME HERE TO MAKE A PICTURE ABOUT A LEGENDARY CREATURE, WHOM THE NATIVES CALL LOCTO! A FILM CLIP OF THE FIRST WEEK'S SHOOTING WILL SHOW YOU BETTER THAN WORDS WHAT I'M UP AGAINST!
THAT GREAT WALL WAS BUILT BY NATIVES TO KEEP THE LEGENDARY ISLAND BEAST FROM THE VILLAGE! WE WERE SHOOTING A SUSPENSE SCENE OUTSIDE THE GATES...
I TELL YOU, I DON'T LIKE IT! THERE'S SOMETHING-- SOMETHING STRANGE OUT THERE!
AT THIS POINT, THE CREATURE-- PLAYED BY A STUNT MAN, OF COURSE -- CAME INTO THE SCENE!
2

... BUT, SUDDENLY, OUR TERRIFIED CAMERAMAN SAW A FORM RISE BEHIND THE ACTORS -- THE REAL THING!
ARROO
"THE CREW RACED BACK TOWARD THE WALL GATES, WHILE I SOMEHOW FOUND THE NERVE TO KEEP A CAMERA TURNING ON THE DESTRUCTION THAT FOLLOWED..."
DEVON, OUR BIG-GAME HUNTER, TOOK A POTSHOT AT THE BEAST AS IT SMASHED OUR EXPENSIVE EQUIPMENT, BUT THE BULLET GLANCED OFF ITS SCALES, AND IT STALKED AWAY!
I'VE THROWN A FORTUNE INTO THIS PRODUCTION, BATMAN! IT TOOK TIME AND MONEY JUST TO FIND PROPER SHOOTING LOCATIONS FOR THESE LAST FEW SCENES, AND HAVE MY ASSISTANT CHECK THEM!
AND NOW YOUR WHOLE PRODUCTION IS THREATENED BY THIS--THIS LOCTO, EH?
ISLAND RUINS
GRAVEYARD BEACH
GREEN LAGOON
GREAT SCOTT! THE BEAST IS BREAKING DOWN THE WALL GATES, BATMAN!
TOO LATE TO BAR HIS ENTRANCE! ROBIN -- THAT FLOODLIGHT... FOCUS IT ON HIS FACE AS HE BREAKS THROUGH!
JUST THEN...
AI-I-I-I-EEEE! LOCTO HE COMES! HE COMES!
OH NO! NOT AGAIN!
3

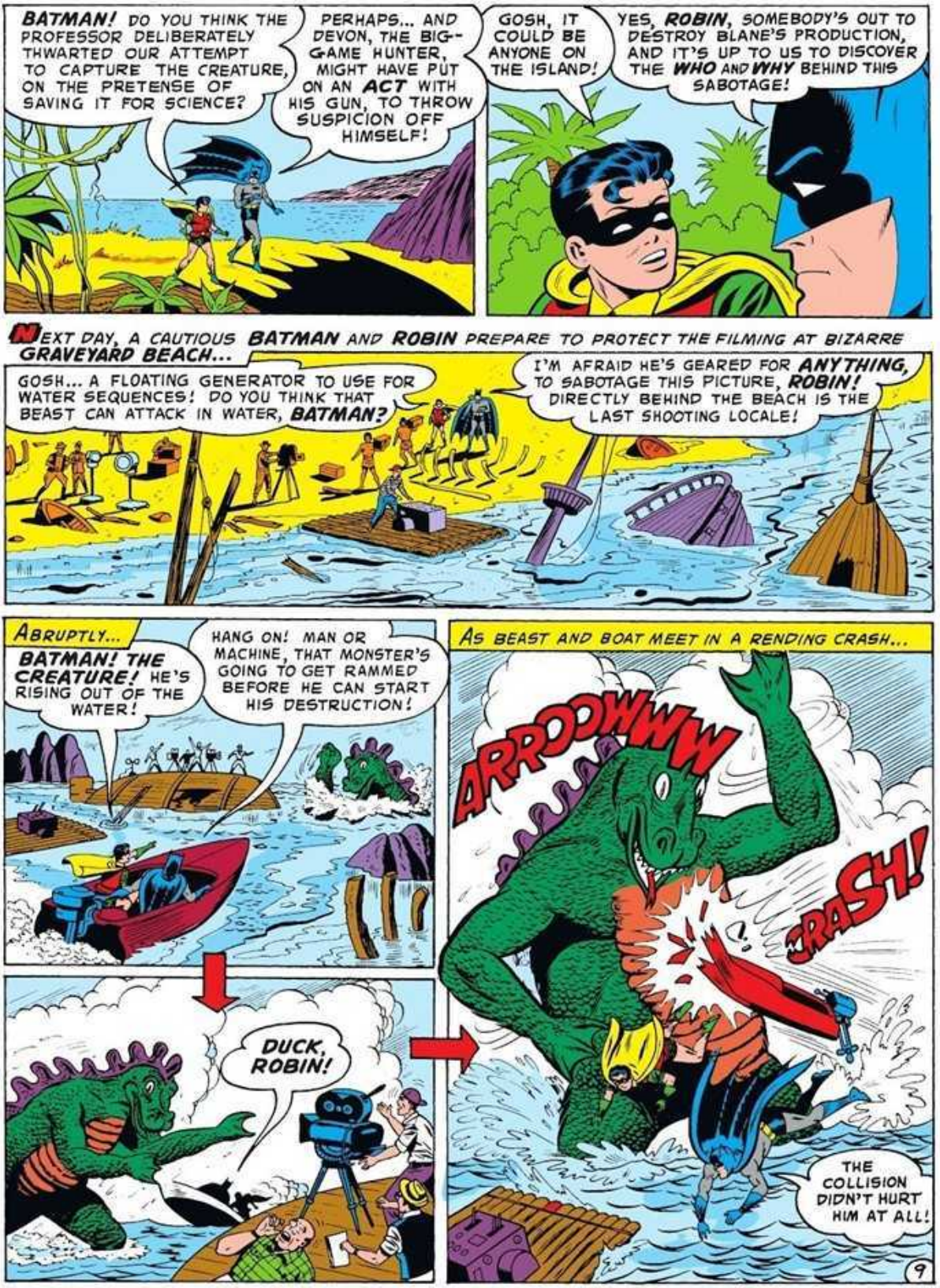
THIS FILM SET CONSTRUCTION CRANE-- IT'S THE ONLY THING POWERFUL ENOUGH TO HALT THE THING!
THEN, AS A FANTASTIC HULK BURSTS THROUGH THE GATES..
I'M BLINDING THE BRUTE--SLOWING IT DOWN--BUT HOW DOES BATMAN FIGURE TO HALT IT?
THE ANSWER COMES WITH SKILLFUL MANEUVERING OF THE CRANE LOOP...
LASSOED HIM WHILE HE STOOD BLINDED! NOW, IF WE CAN RESTRAIN HIS LIMBS...
NO... NO!
AND AS BATMAN CRAWLS FROM THE CRANE CAB...
PROFESSOR CARTER! DON'T TRIP THAT RELEASE!
POWER RELEASE
BUT THE CRY GOES UNHEEDED, AS...
THE PROFESSOR... HE RELEASED LOCTO!
HE MIGHT HAVE KILLED US ALL-- BUT THE GREAT POWER OF THE CRANE MUST HAVE CONFUSED HIM! HE'S RUNNING AWAY!

SORRY, BATMAN... I--I SIMPLY COULDN'T LET YOU DESTROY LOCTO! HE BELONGS TO SCIENCE... ALIVE!
TRUE, PROFESSOR, BUT I HAD NO INTENTION OF KILLING THE BRUTE! I INTENDED ONLY TO HOLD HIM SUSPENDED SO HE COULD BE TRUSSED UP SAFELY!
WHY... WHY DID THE THING HAVE TO ESCAPE? MY WORRIES WOULD HAVE BEEN OVER!
NO POINT FRETTING ABOUT IT, BLANE! RIGHT NOW, WE'VE GOT A JOB-- REPAIRING THAT SMASHED WALL GATE!
LATER, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN DISCUSS THE UNUSUAL SITUATION...
EVEN IF THAT REINFORCED WALL GATE KEEPS LOCTO AWAY, HOW CAN THE CAST BE PROTECTED OUTSIDE, AT THE NATIVE RUINS TOMORROW?
WE'LL PUT SOME THOUGHT INTO THAT, ROBIN, AFTER WE'VE GOTTEN SOME SLEEP!
BUT SUDDENLY, AS THEY REACH THEIR HUT...
WHAT'S THAT, BATMAN?
THE NATIVE CEREMONIAL GONG... IT'S--GREAT SCOTT!
BONG BONG
A THRUST OF BATMAN'S MIGHTY FOREARM YANKS ROBIN FROM THE HUT, JUST AS...
BONG! BONG! BONG
AND WHEN THEY EXAMINE THE OBJECT OF THEIR CLOSE CALL...
ODD... BOTH SUPPORTING ROPES ARE FRAYED THROUGH! THAT'S A REAL PECULIAR ACCIDENT!
YES... MIGHTY UNUSUAL THAT BOTH ROPES SHOULD FRAY THROUGH AT ONCE!
5

GOLLY... IF SOMEONE DELIBERATELY FRAYED THOSE ROPES, THE GONG'S SWINGING IN THE NIGHT BREEZE WOULD EVENTUALLY BREAK THEM!
RIGHT-- GIVING OUR WOULD-BE KILLER PLENTY OF TIME TO ESCAPE! COME ON, LET'S FIND ANOTHER PLACE TO BED DOWN!
NEXT MORNING, AS BATMAN COMPLETES A PLAN OF DEFENSE AGAINST THE ISLAND BEAST...
A GREAT IDEA, BATMAN!.. IF LOCTO APPEARS, WE CAN ELECTRIFY THAT STEEL MESH NET, AND STUN HIM! BUT HOW CAN WE MAKE HIM STEP ON IT?
THAT WILL BE MY PROBLEM, BLANE! START YOUR ISLAND RUINS SCENE ANY TIME YOU'RE READY!
FOR AN HOUR, THE CAMERAS WHIR SMOOTHLY...
VERY REALISTIC, ROBIN! BUT THAT ACTOR-BEAST CAN'T MATCH THE REAL ONE FOR FEROCITY!
ALL AT ONCE...
AROOWW!
LOCTO! THE ISLAND CREATURE COMES!
LET'S GO, ROBIN... WE'VE GOT TO MANEUVER THAT BEAST ACCORDING TO PLAN!
QUICKLY, BATMAN MOUNTS A TOWERING RUIN, AND...
ALL RIGHT, ROBIN-- GET SET WITH THAT POWER SWITCH!
RIGHT, BATMAN...
LIKE HUMAN BAIT, BATMAN TEMPTS THE CREATURE FORWARD...
HI! HI! THIS WAY, LOCTO!
SO FAR, SO GOOD...
6


BUT AT THAT MOMENT...
LAST TIME, MY CARTRIDGE CALIBER WAS TOO SMALL TO DROP THE BEAST! THIS HIGH-CALIBER JOB WILL DO THE TRICK, BATMAN!
DEVON--HE INTENDS TO SLAY LOCTO!
HOLD IT, DEVON! YOU'LL SPOIL MY PLAN!
LOCTO'S ON THE NET! NOW!
BUT, AMAZINGLY, THERE IS NO REACTION AS THOUSANDS OF VOLTS COURSE THROUGH THE NET...
BATMAN! SEA SPONGES HAVE CAUGHT ON HIS FEET! THEY MUST BE INSULATING HIM AGAINST THE SHOCK!
GREAT SCOTT!
AND WHILE THE BEAST WREAKS HAVOC BELOW...
DESTROYING AN ANCIENT RELIC WILL BE A SMALL PRICE--IF IT CAN HALT THAT BEAST'S DESTRUCTION!
FRANTICALLY, THE CAPED FIGURE ELUDES THE BEAST, AS...
TRAP'S BACKFIRED... GOT TO MAKE THE ANCIENT SUNDIAL TOWER!
7

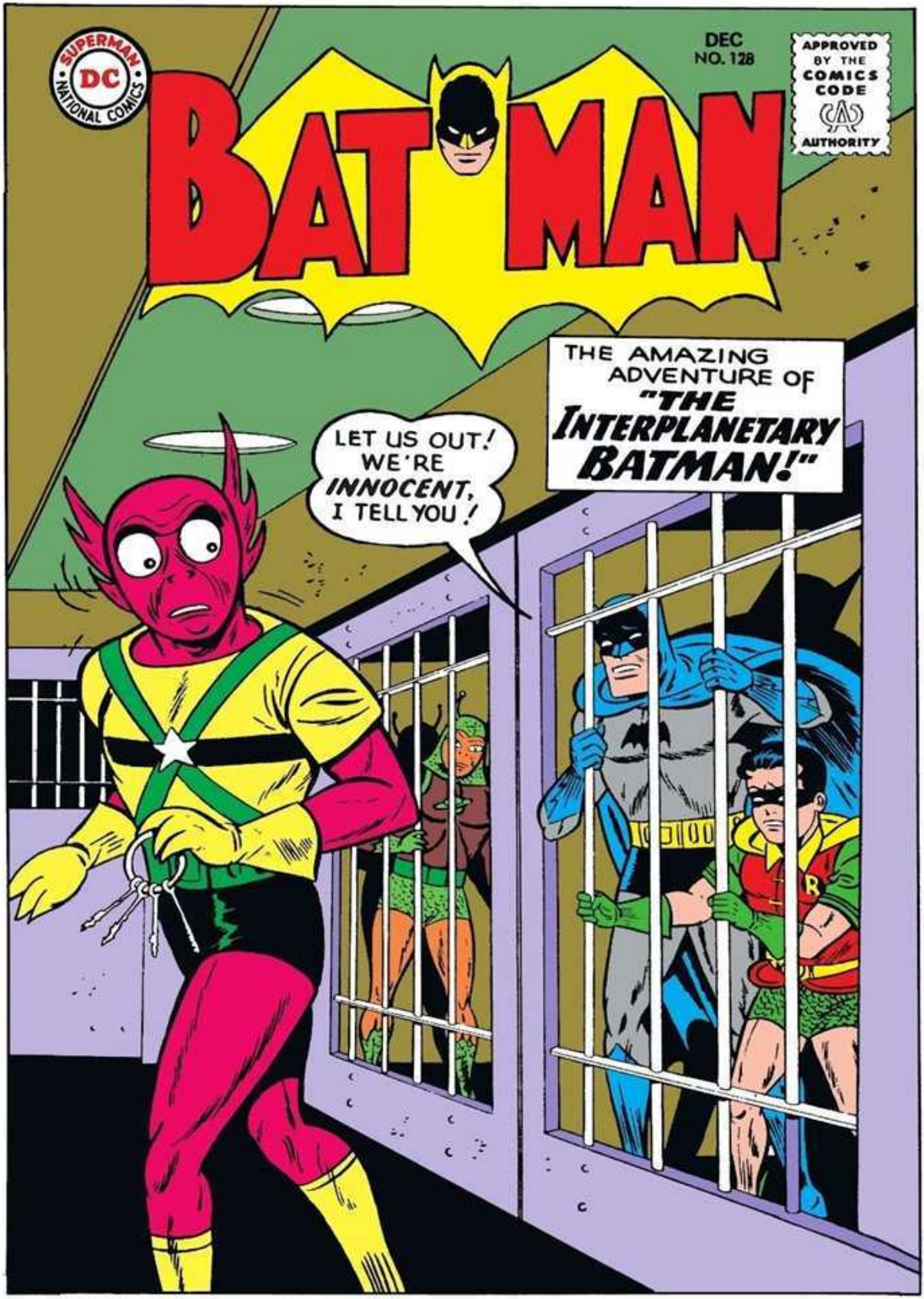
THERE!... IT'S SHAKEN HIM!
AND AS THE GREAT HULK SHUDDERS AND STALKS OFF...
AFTER HIM, ROBIN! WE CAN'T RISK ANOTHER LOSING ENCOUNTER! WE'VE GOT TO FIND HIS LAIR!
CHECK!
BUT, UPON REACHING THE THICK JUNGLE BRUSH...
HE CRASHES THROUGH THE JUNGLE GROWTH WITH HIS GREAT WEIGHT... WE'RE TOO LIGHT! HE'S ELUDING US!
YES, ROBIN, BUT WITH THOSE TREMENDOUS PRINTS HE SHOULD BE SIMPLE ENOUGH TO TRACK!
SOON... HE ENTERED THE STREAM -- BUT WHICH WAY DID HE GO?
MORE IMPORTANT, ROBIN, THAT BRUTE'S SHOWN HUMAN INTELLIGENCE, BY ENTERING A STREAM TO THROW US OFF HIS TRACK!
HUMAN INTELLIGENCE? DO YOU THINK SOMEONE'S WEARING A CREATURE-DISGUISE, LIKE THE ACTOR IN THE FILM?
YES, ROBIN, AND I ALSO NOTICED THOSE INSULATING SPONGES WERE TIED TO HIS FEET!
THAT MEANS THE PERSON BEHIND IT KNEW WE PLANNED AN ELECTRICAL NET TO TRAP THE CREATURE!
AND ONLY SOMEONE IN THE CAST OR CREW COULD KNOW THAT!

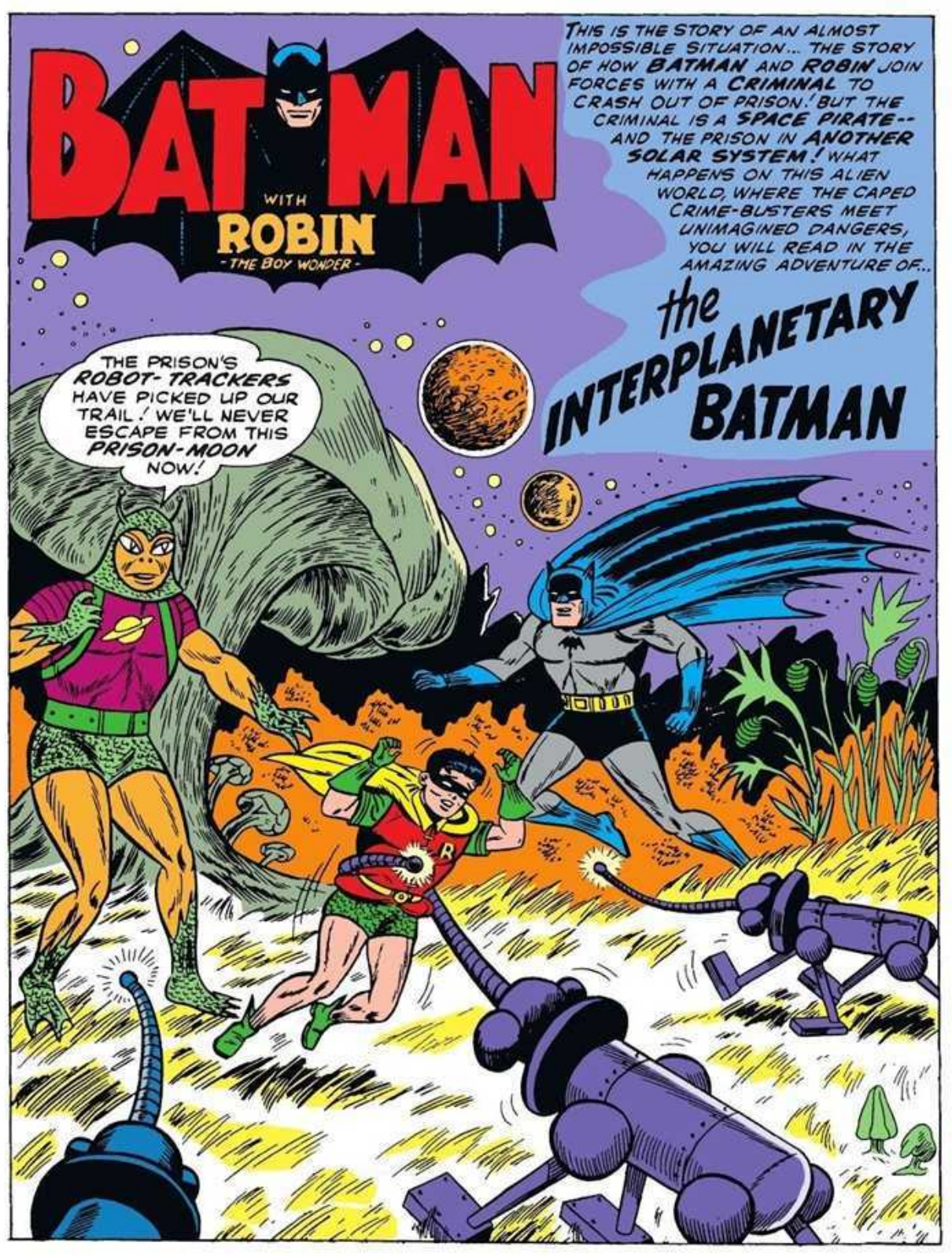

BATMAN! DO YOU THINK THE PROFESSOR DELIBERATELY THWARTED OUR ATTEMPT TO CAPTURE THE CREATURE, ON THE PRETENSE OF SAVING IT FOR SCIENCE?
PERHAPS... AND DEVON, THE BIG-GAME HUNTER, MIGHT HAVE PUT ON AN ACT WITH HIS GUN, TO THROW SUSPICION OFF HIMSELF!
GOSH, IT COULD BE ANYONE ON THE ISLAND!
YES, ROBIN, SOMEBODY'S OUT TO DESTROY BLANE'S PRODUCTION, AND IT'S UP TO US TO DISCOVER THE WHO AND WHY BEHIND THIS SABOTAGE!
NEXT DAY, A CAUTIOUS BATMAN AND ROBIN PREPARE TO PROTECT THE FILMING AT BIZARRE GRAVEYARD BEACH...
GOSH... A FLOATING GENERATOR TO USE FOR WATER SEQUENCES! DO YOU THINK THAT BEAST CAN ATTACK IN WATER, BATMAN?
I'M AFRAID HE'S GEARED FOR ANYTHING, TO SABOTAGE THIS PICTURE, ROBIN! DIRECTLY BEHIND THE BEACH IS THE LAST SHOOTING LOCALE!
ABRUPTLY...
BATMAN! THE CREATURE! HE'S RISING OUT OF THE WATER!
HANG ON! MAN OR MACHINE, THAT MONSTER'S GOING TO GET RAMMED BEFORE HE CAN START HIS DESTRUCTION!
DUCK, ROBIN!
AS BEAST AND BOAT MEET IN A RENDING CRASH...
ARROOWWW
CRASH!
THE COLLISION DIDN'T HURT HIM AT ALL!
9

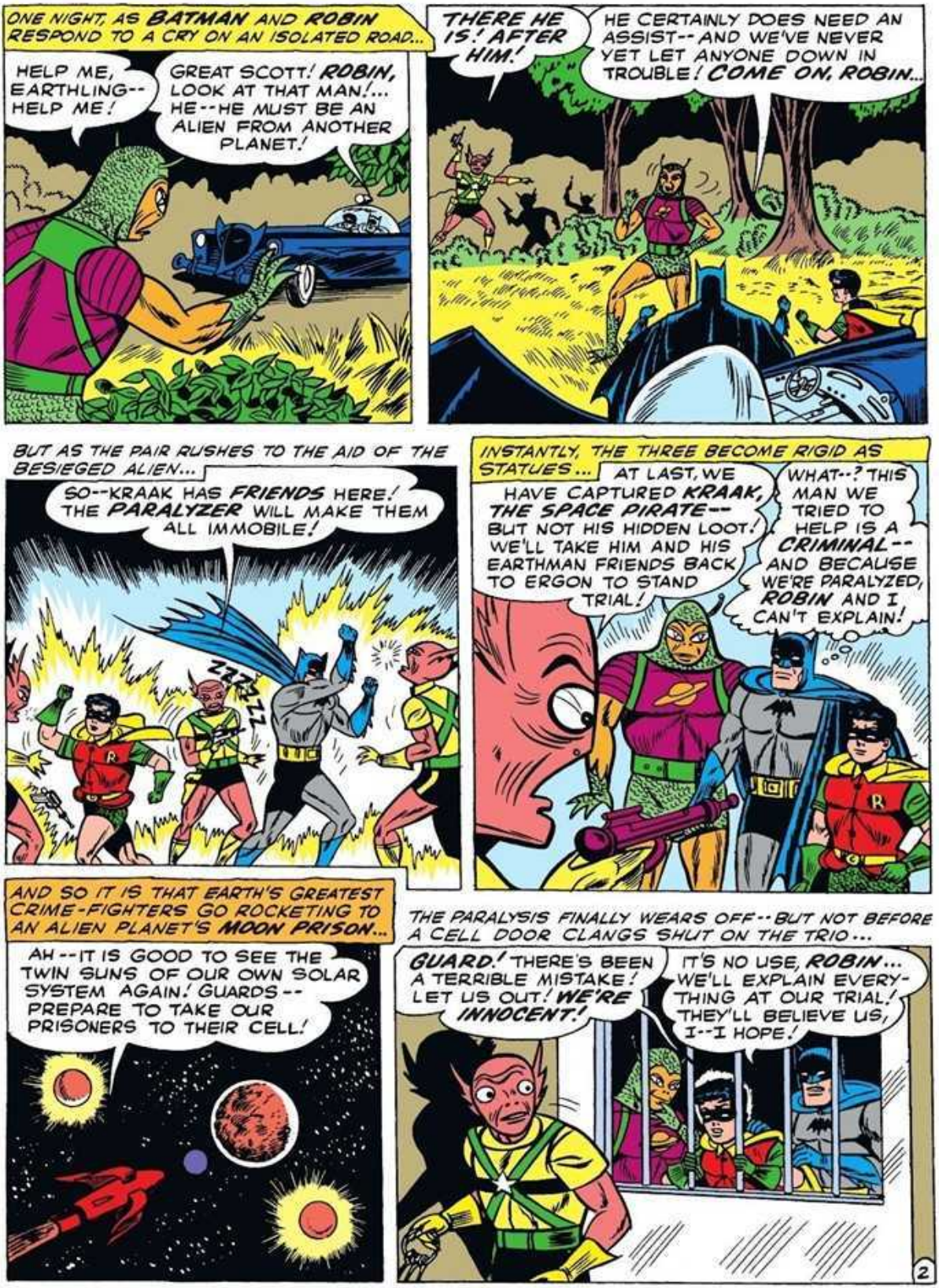
AND AS THE MADDENED CREATURE GOES ON A RAMPAGE OF DESTRUCTION...
ARROOWW
HOW COULD A LIVING THING SURVIVE SUCH A COLLISION, UNLESS...
BATMAN! YOU'VE KNOCKED THE GENERATOR DIAL ONTO FULL POWER! THE LIGHTS AND ELECTRICAL GADGETS ON THE SET...THEY'RE SHORT-CIRCUITING!
YES, ROBIN-- BUT THE CREATURE IS STUNNED! I WAS RIGHT!
WHEN THE COLLISION DIDN'T STOP HIM, I SUSPECTED HE MIGHT BE A MECHANICAL CREATURE, ROBIN!
I GET IT...SO YOU DELIBERATELY POWERED UP THAT GENERATOR TO SHORT-CIRCUIT HIS MECHANISM! LOOK!
SLOWLY, THE SCALED MONSTROSITY LUMBERS FREE OF THE WRECKAGE...
IT'S HEADING ACROSS THE SANDBAR!
MAKING FOR THE FINAL SHOOTING LOCALE-- GREEN LAGOON! LET'S GO, ROBIN...
YOU WERE RIGHT, BATMAN... THAT THING MUST BE MECHANICAL FOR IT TO SHORT-CIRCUIT AND WOBBLE LIKE THAT!
YES, ROBIN, BUT WHO OPERATES IT... AND WHY? I'M GOING BELOW, WITH AN AQUA-LUNG!
AQUA-LUNGS UNDERWATER FILMING
SECONDS AFTERWARD, AS BATMAN REACHES THE BOTTOM OF GREEN LAGOON...
THE MECHANICAL CREATURE IS HELPLESS! I CAN TUG IT TO THE SURFACE EASILY! BUT-- WHAT'S THIS? AN OYSTER BED! I WONDER...?
10

QUICKLY, BATMAN SHUCKS SEVERAL OYSTERS WITH A KNIFE FROM HIS UTILITY BELT, TO DISCOVER...
A RARE BLACK PEARL! OF COURSE!... THIS PRIZE OYSTER BED IS WHAT OUR CRIMINAL SOUGHT TO KEEP THE FILM COMPANY FROM FINDING! AND ONLY ONE MAN WOULD KNOW OF ITS TREASURES!
SUDDENLY...
IT'S BEING ACTIVATED AGAIN! SOMEBODY'S RETURNED THE GENERATOR ON THE RAFT TO NORMAL POWER!
WHILE UP ABOVE...
THERE...THAT WILL DO IT!
MARTIN--ADJUSTING THE POWER DIAL OF THE GENERATOR! IS HE JUST REPAIRING IT OR...?
BELOW, BATMAN MOVES TOWARD THE SURFACE AS...
THAT THING'S THRASHING ABOUT WILDLY FOR ME--AND THE PERSON WHO CONTROLS THAT MACHINE ON SHORE CAN DIRECT IT AFTER ME ACCURATELY!
I'LL HAVE A BETTER CHANCE AVOIDING IT UNDERWATER... IT'S FLAILING WILDLY!
IF ONE OF THOSE WILD SWINGS HITS ME, THOUGH, I'M DONE FOR! I HAVE TO BE CAREFUL...
11

AS THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTER SEEKS TO ELUDE HIS MECHANICAL PURSUER AMID SUNKEN HULLS...
THE DISTURBANCE MY BODY CREATED IN THE WATER--IT'S TOPPLED THAT ROTTED MAST...
I'M TRAPPED
BUT JUST WHEN SWIFT UNDERWATER DOOM SEEMS CERTAIN...
ITS MECHANISM HAS STOPPED! THE THING'S POWER HAS BEEN SHUT OFF!
MOMENTS LATER, UP ABOVE...
MARTIN--YOU'RE ON TO HIM ALSO, ROBIN!
RIGHT, BATMAN... I CAUGHT ON WHEN HE RE-ADJUSTED THE GENERATOR! THIS BRIEF-CASE HE CARRIED HOLDS A RADIO CONTROL UNIT TO OPERATE THE ROBOT!
WHEN PRODUCER BLANE ARRIVES...
THANKS, ROBIN... YOU SURE TUMBLED TO MARTIN IN THE NICK OF TIME! ANOTHER MINUTE AND HIS ROBOT WOULD HAVE FINISHED ME!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT--MARTIN SABOTAGING MY FILM TO KEEP THE LOCATION OF A BLACK PEARL BED FROM BEING REVEALED WHEN WE SHOT IN THE GREEN LAGOON!
YES, YOUR ASSISTANT WENT TO LOCALES TO BE FILMED IN ADVANCE, THUS LEARNING THE SECRET OF THE PEARL BED! I WAS BELOW THE SURFACE WHEN I REALIZED THAT! GOOD THING ROBIN WAS ON HIS TOES UP ABOVE, BLANE!
12
THE END.


SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
DEC
NO. 128
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
BAT MAN
THE AMAZING ADVENTURE OF "THE INTERPLANETARY BATMAN!"
LET US OUT! WE'RE INNOCENT, I TELL YOU!

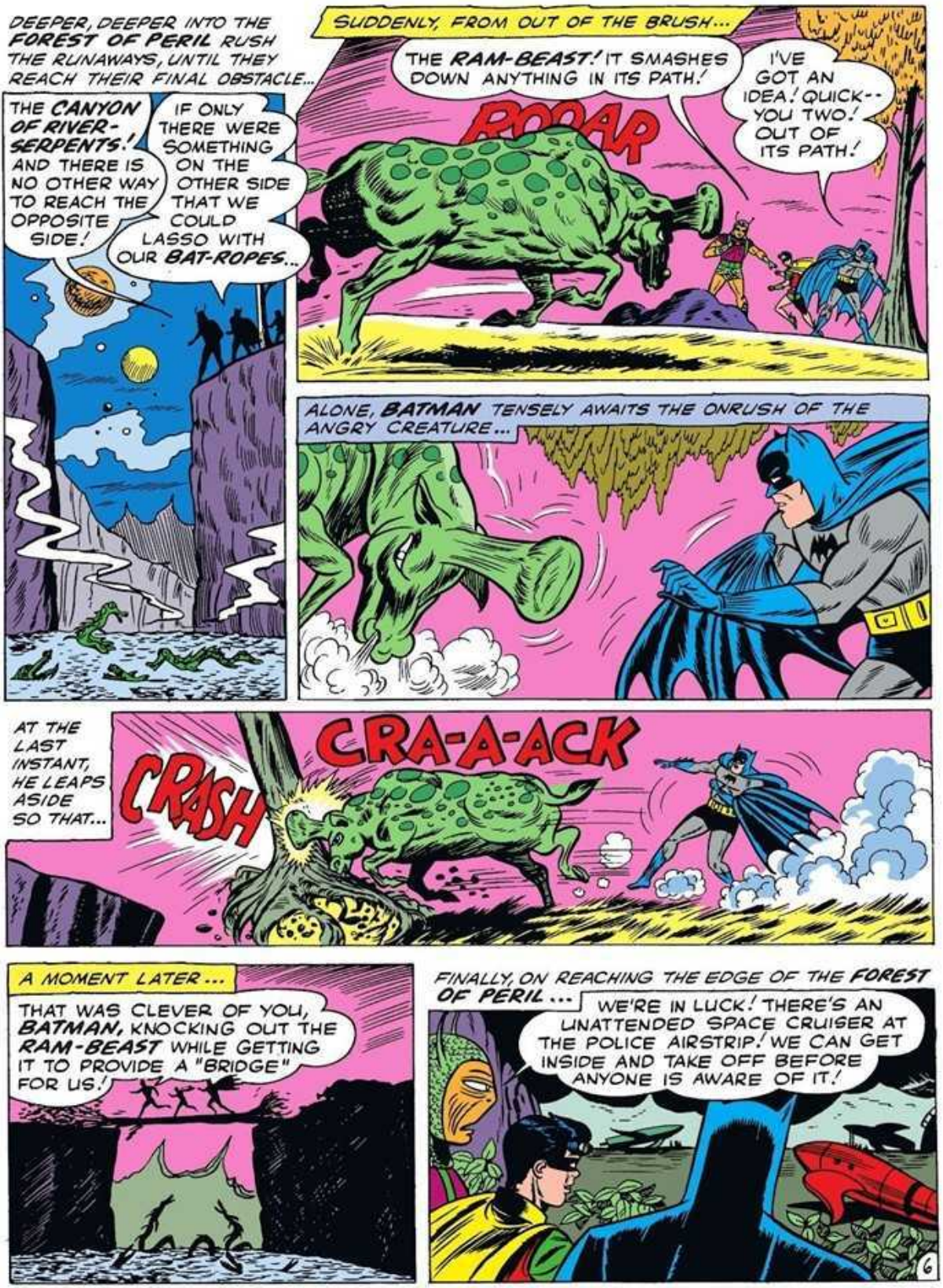

BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -
THIS IS THE STORY OF AN ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION... THE STORY OF HOW BATMAN AND ROBIN JOIN FORCES WITH A CRIMINAL TO CRASH OUT OF PRISON! BUT THE CRIMINAL IS A SPACE PIRATE-- AND THE PRISON IN ANOTHER SOLAR SYSTEM! WHAT HAPPENS ON THIS ALIEN WORLD, WHERE THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTERS MEET UNIMAGINED DANGERS, YOU WILL READ IN THE AMAZING ADVENTURE OF..
the INTERPLANETARY BATMAN
THE PRISON'S ROBOT-TRACKERS HAVE PICKED UP OUR TRAIL! WE'LL NEVER ESCAPE FROM THIS PRISON-MOON NOW!


ONE NIGHT, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN RESPOND TO A CRY ON AN ISOLATED ROAD...
HELP ME, EARTHLING--HELP ME!
GREAT SCOTT! ROBIN, LOOK AT THAT MAN!... HE--HE MUST BE AN ALIEN FROM ANOTHER PLANET!
THERE HE IS! AFTER HIM!
HE CERTAINLY DOES NEED AN ASSIST--AND WE'VE NEVER YET LET ANYONE DOWN IN TROUBLE! COME ON, ROBIN...
BUT AS THE PAIR RUSHES TO THE AID OF THE BESIEGED ALIEN...
SO--KRAAK HAS FRIENDS HERE! THE PARALYZER WILL MAKE THEM ALL IMMOBILE!
ZZZZZZ
INSTANTLY, THE THREE BECOME RIGID AS STATUES...
AT LAST, WE HAVE CAPTURED KRAAK, THE SPACE PIRATE--BUT NOT HIS HIDDEN LOOT! WE'LL TAKE HIM AND HIS EARTHMAN FRIENDS BACK TO ERGON TO STAND TRIAL!
WHAT--? THIS MAN WE TRIED TO HELP IS A CRIMINAL--AND BECAUSE WE'RE PARALYZED, ROBIN AND I CAN'T EXPLAIN!
AND SO IT IS THAT EARTH'S GREATEST CRIME-FIGHTERS GO ROCKETING TO AN ALIEN PLANET'S MOON PRISON...
AH--IT IS GOOD TO SEE THE TWIN SUNS OF OUR OWN SOLAR SYSTEM AGAIN! GUARDS--PREPARE TO TAKE OUR PRISONERS TO THEIR CELL!
THE PARALYSIS FINALLY WEARS OFF--BUT NOT BEFORE A CELL DOOR CLANGS SHUT ON THE TRIO...
GUARD! THERE'S BEEN A TERRIBLE MISTAKE! LET US OUT! WE'RE INNOCENT!
IT'S NO USE, ROBIN... WE'LL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING AT OUR TRIAL! THEY'LL BELIEVE US, I--I HOPE!
2

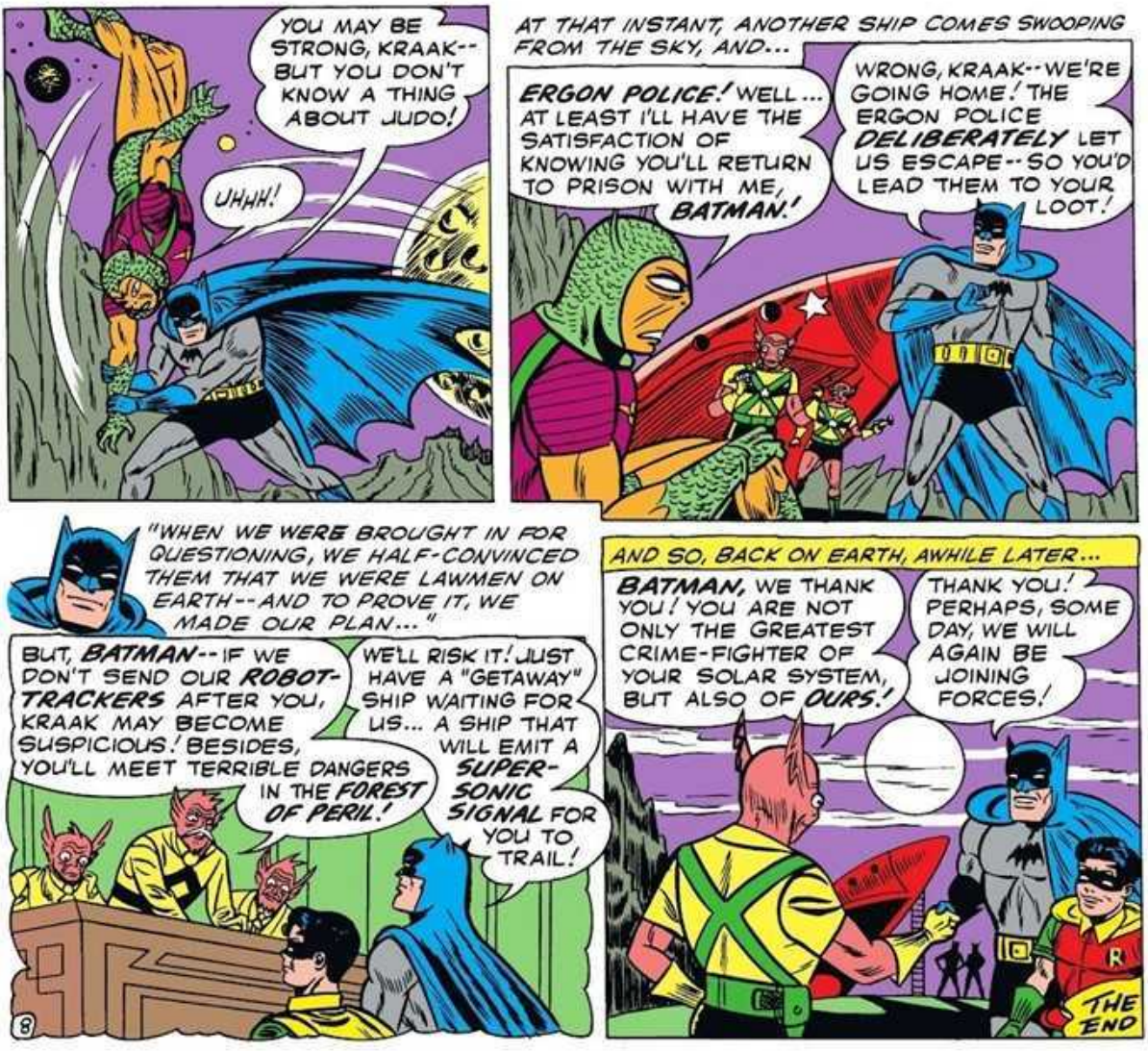
LATER, WHEN THE PRISONERS ARE LET OUT INTO THE YARD FOR RECREATION PERIOD...
KRAAK, WHY DON'T YOU TELL THEM THE TRUTH--THAT WE NEVER SAW YOU BEFORE?
WHY SHOULD I? YOU MEAN NOTHING TO ME!
OUT OF MY WAY, LITTLE INSECT! HA, HA!
KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF THAT BOY, YOU BIG APE!
HUH--?
VERY WELL, EARTHLING ... IT WILL BE YOU WHO FEELS THE POWER OF MY HANDS!
SWIFTLY, GUARDS RUSH FORWARD AND PULL THE BATTLERS APART...
PUT KRAAK BACK IN THE CELL--AND BRING THE EARTHLINGS ALONG FOR QUESTIONING!
AT LAST! NOW WE'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO CLEAR OURSELVES!
BUT, LATER, IT'S A DISAPPOINTED-LOOKING BATMAN AND ROBIN WHO RETURN TO THEIR CELL...
WE TOLD THEM--BUT THEY DIDN'T BELIEVE US! THEY THINK WE'RE WORKING WITH YOU!
AND THEY PUT US BACK TOGETHER BECAUSE THEY THINK WE'LL QUARREL AGAIN AND BETRAY EACH OTHER, EH? THE FOOLS!
3

LISTEN, KRAAK! ROBIN AND I DON'T INTEND TO REMAIN PRISONERS ON THIS ALIEN WORLD! WE'RE GOING TO BREAK OUT!
BAH! EVEN IF YOU COULD GET AWAY, YOU'D BE STOPPED BY THE FOREST OF PERIL! THAT PLACE IS SO DANGEROUS, IT ISN'T EVEN GUARDED-- BECAUSE NO CONVICT HAS EVER LIVED TO GO THROUGH IT!
ROBIN AND I WILL RISK IT! WE'D RATHER DIE IN THE FOREST OF PERIL THAN ROT HERE IN JAIL! I ALREADY HAVE A WAY TO GET OUT OF THIS CELL...
Y-YOU HAVE...?
LISTEN...I KNOW THIS MOON'S TERRAIN! I COULD BE YOUR GUIDE! LET ME GO WITH YOU, AND I'LL SHARE MY LOOT WITH YOU!
HMM...WE WOULD NEED A GUIDE, BATMAN! I'M FOR LETTING KRAAK JOIN US!
SO AM I!
IMMEDIATELY, BATMAN PRODUCES A SMALL VIAL, AND...
LUCKILY, THE GUARDS DIDN'T SEARCH MY UTILITY BELT... THEY THOUGHT THE POUCHES WERE ONLY DECORATIONS! THIS POWERFUL ACID WILL EAT RIGHT THROUGH THE LOCK!
MINUTES LATER...
SOUND THE ALARM! THE PRISONERS ARE ESCAPING!
QUICK-- TO THE PARAPET!
SOON...
IT IS ONLY A SHORT SWIM TO THE OTHER SHORE-- AND TO THE FOREST OF PERIL BEYOND!
ON REACHING THE FORBIDDEN FOREST...
THIS TREE GROWS HUGE MELONS FILLED WITH HONEY! CAREFUL, ROBIN-- DON'T BREAK ANY PODS OF THE OTHER TREE... THEY CONTAIN A STRONG PEPPER!
4

JUST THEN...
LOOK!...THE ROBOT-TRACKERS! THEY'VE PICKED UP OUR SCENT! THEY'LL EASILY OVERTAKE US AND RETURN US TO THE PRISON!
ROBOTS, EH? QUICK...GRAB SOME OF THOSE HONEY MELONS--AND THROW THEM AT THE TRACKERS!
SNIFF
SNIFF
SNIFF
YET EVEN AS THEY HURL THE GIANT FRUITS...
ONE OF THEM HAS CAPTURED KRAAK! ROBIN--LOOK OUT!
BUT JUST WHEN ESCAPE SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE...
EH--? THE TRACKERS ARE SLOWING DOWN! I DON'T UNDERSTAND...
AS I'D HOPED, SWARMS OF INSECTS WERE ATTRACTED TO THE HONEY! THEY'VE CRAWLED INSIDE THE ROBOTS' MECHANISMS, JAMMING THEM!
SNIFF
SNIFF
SNIFF
LEAVING THE STALLED TRACKERS FAR BEHIND, THE RUNAWAYS PUSH ON INTO THE FOREST OF PERIL, UNTIL...
ROBIN!
YOU CAN'T HELP HIM NOW... ROBIN IS CAUGHT BY A SWAMP-AMOEBA! STAY BACK OR IT WILL GET YOU, TOO!
HEEDLESS OF THE DANGER, BATMAN YANKS ANOTHER VIAL FROM HIS UTILITY BELT, AND...
GET SET TO JUMP, ROBIN!
AS THE COLOSSAL SWAMP-AMOEBA SHRINKS WITH DISTASTE FROM THE ENVELOPING SMOKE...
FEEL OKAY, ROBIN?
I--THINK SO!
5


DEEPER, DEEPER INTO THE FOREST OF PERIL RUSH THE RUNAWAYS, UNTIL THEY REACH THEIR FINAL OBSTACLE...
THE CANYON OF RIVER-SERPENTS! AND THERE IS NO OTHER WAY TO REACH THE OPPOSITE SIDE!
IF ONLY THERE WERE SOMETHING ON THE OTHER SIDE THAT WE COULD LASSO WITH OUR BAT-ROPES...
SUDDENLY, FROM OUT OF THE BRUSH...
THE RAM-BEAST! IT SMASHES DOWN ANYTHING IN ITS PATH!
ROOAR
I'VE GOT AN IDEA! QUICK-- YOU TWO! OUT OF ITS PATH!
ALONE, BATMAN TENSELY AWAITS THE ONRUSH OF THE ANGRY CREATURE...
AT THE LAST INSTANT, HE LEAPS ASIDE SO THAT...
CRASH
CRA-A-ACK
A MOMENT LATER...
THAT WAS CLEVER OF YOU, BATMAN, KNOCKING OUT THE RAM-BEAST WHILE GETTING IT TO PROVIDE A "BRIDGE" FOR US!
FINALLY, ON REACHING THE EDGE OF THE FOREST OF PERIL...
WE'RE IN LUCK! THERE'S AN UNATTENDED SPACE CRUISER AT THE POLICE AIRSTRIP! WE CAN GET INSIDE AND TAKE OFF BEFORE ANYONE IS AWARE OF IT!
6

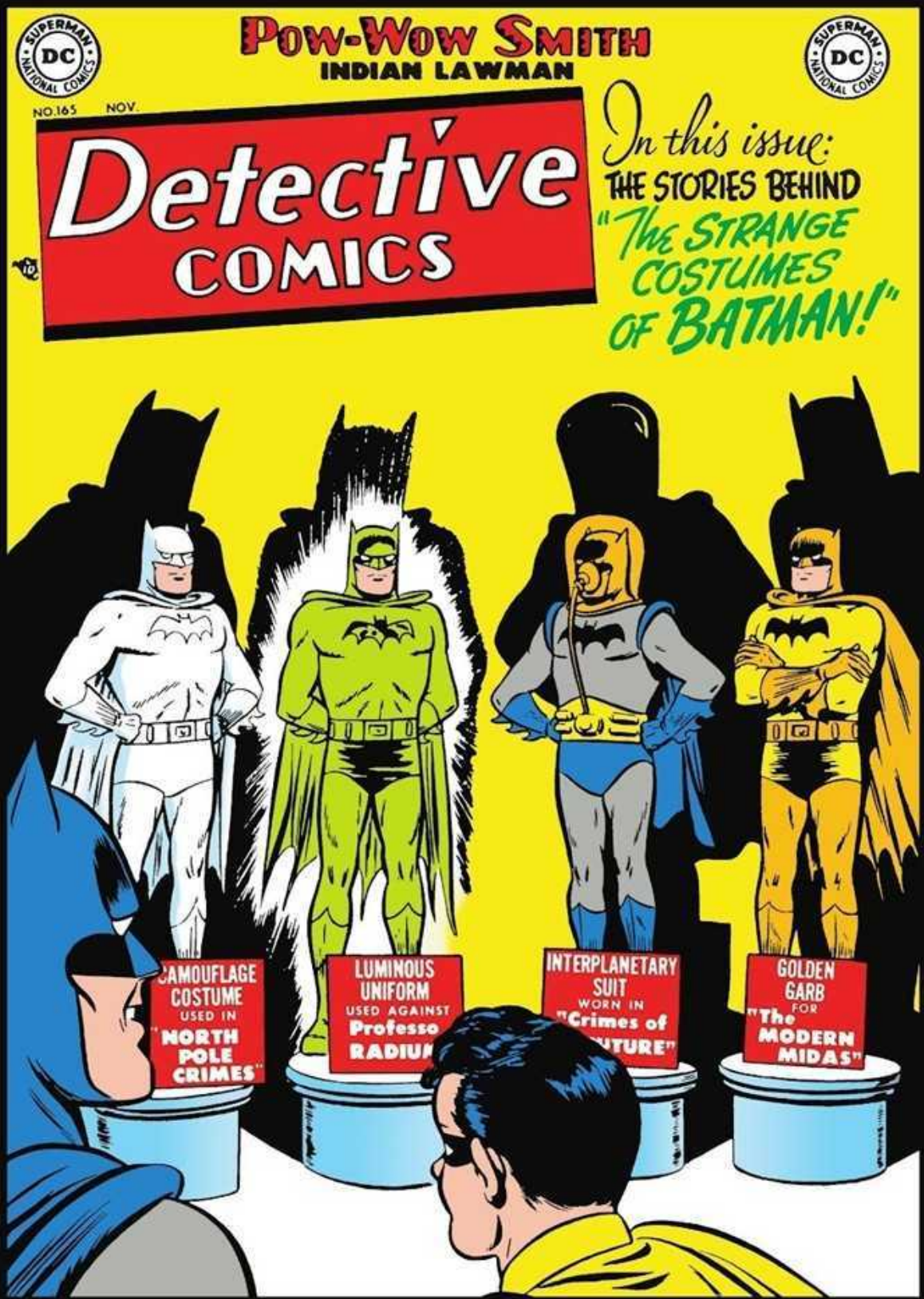
WITHIN MINUTES, THE COMMANDEERED CRUISER GOES BLASTING OFF INTO SPACE...
THANKS TO YOU, BATMAN, WE'VE DONE WHAT NO OTHER CONVICT HAS EVER DONE... WE'VE ESCAPED FROM THE ERGON MOON-PRISON!
SOME TIME LATER...
SOON, WE'LL BE ON EARTH, KRAAK, AND YOU CAN PICK UP THE LOOT YOU HID THERE!
WE'RE NOT GOING TO EARTH! I DROPPED THE LOOT, BY PARACHUTE, TO MY HIDEOUT ASTEROID-- THEN ROCKETED ON, TO DECOY THE PURSUING POLICE SHIP! BUT MY ENGINE FAILED, FORCING ME TO LAND ON YOUR PLANET!
THERE IS MY HIDEOUT-- THE CLAW ASTEROID!
BUT AS THE TRIO STEPS OUT ON THE ALIEN WORLD...
FOOLS! DID YOU REALLY THINK I'D SHARE MY LOOT WITH YOU? SEIZE THEM!
WHAT...?
QUICKLY, BATMAN REACHES INTO A SECRET POCKET OF HIS CAPE, AND...
I HAD A HUNCH YOU'D DOUBLE-CROSS US, KRAAK, SO I SECRETED SOME PODS FROM THE PEPPER TREE-- JUST IN CASE!
UH-CHOO!
ATCHOO!
YOU CAN HANDLE THEM NOW, ROBIN, WHILE I TAKE CARE OF KRAAK!
BAH!... MAYBE THE RAM-BEAST DIDN'T SMASH YOU, EARTHMAN-- BUT I WILL! I AM THE STRONGEST MAN IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM!

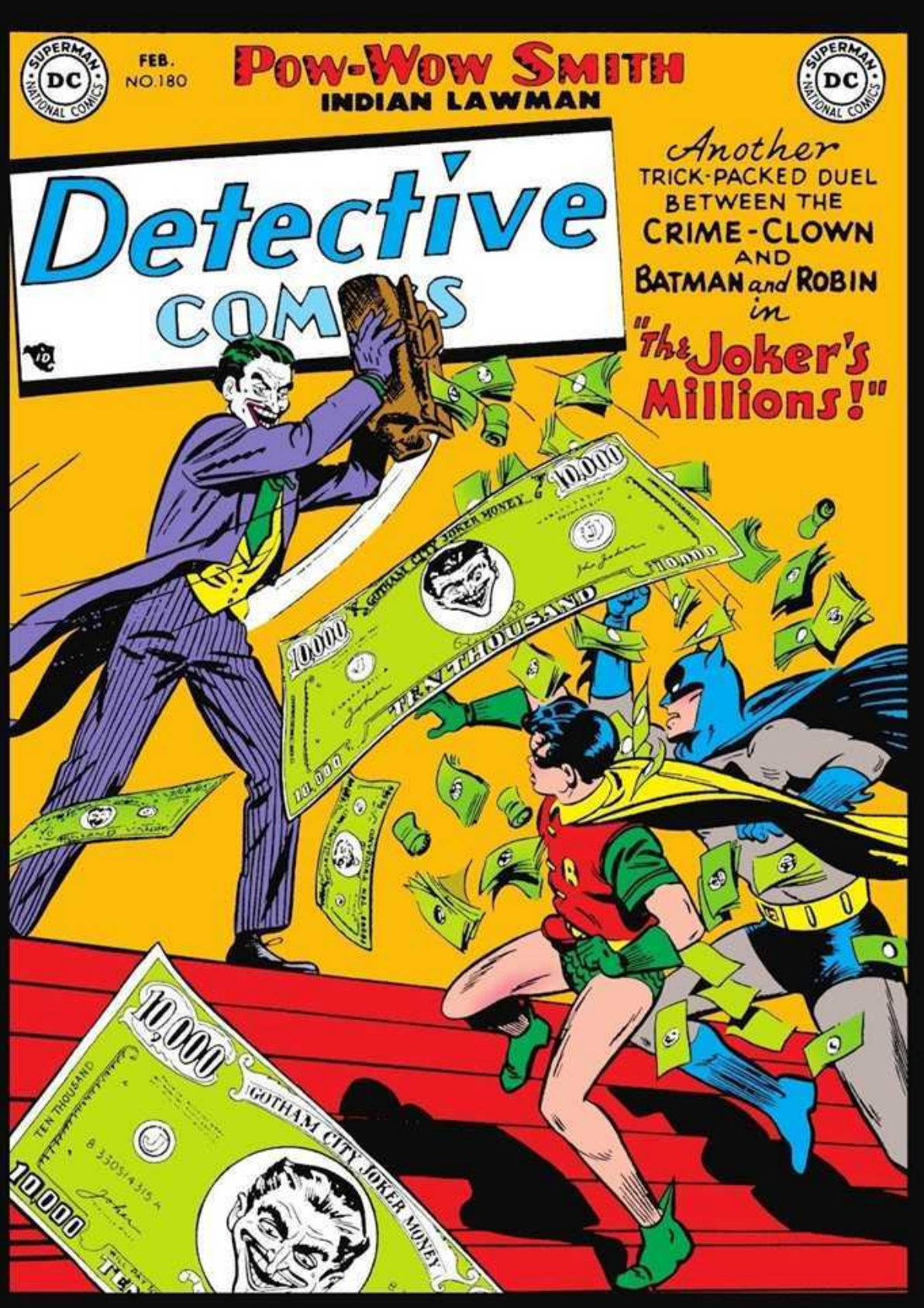


BATMAN With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

Bonus Cover Gallery

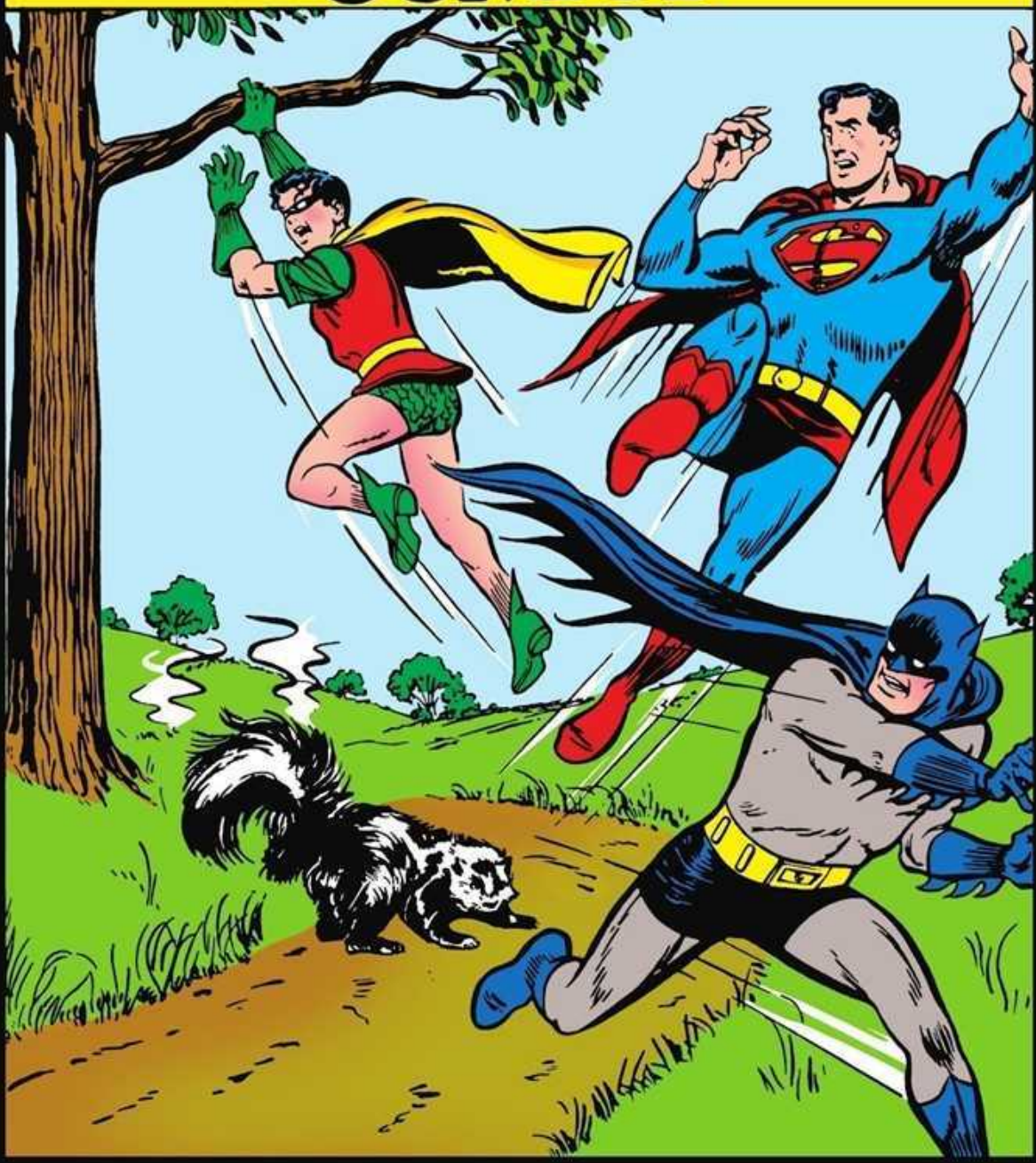
All covers by **Win Mortimer**




SUPERMAN · NATIONAL COMICS · DC
FEB.
NO.180
POW-WOW SMITH
INDIAN LAWMAN
SUPERMAN · NATIONAL COMICS · DC
Detective
COMICS
Another
TRICK-PACKED DUEL
BETWEEN THE
CRIME-CLOWN
AND
BATMAN and ROBIN
in
"The Joker's
Millions!"
10,000
GOTHAM CITY JOKER MONEY
TEN THOUSAND
10,000

JAN.-FEB.
NO. 68

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS



Journey Back to a Decade of Adventure!

Perhaps no other time period in comics was as bold or strange as the 1950s. While prior decades had established Batman's reputation as a crime-fighting detective who used brains as well as brawn, and had introduced iconic villains such as the Joker and the Riddler, the fifties were an era of experimentation that brought new gadgets, new allies, new villains, and odd new cases for the Dark Knight to solve.

In this collection of carefully curated classics, join the Caped Crusader and the Boy Wonder as they reveal more secrets behind Batman's arsenal, such as the Batmobile and the infamous Rainbow Batsuit. Witness the first appearances of Ace the Bat-Hound, Batwoman, and the mischievous Bat-Mite. Hold your breath as the Dynamic Duo face the deadly machinations of the Red Hood, Killer Moth, and the chilling Mr. Zero. And journey into the unknown as Batman travels to the stars!

Featuring tales pulled from the pages of *Detective Comics*, *Batman*, and *World's Finest Comics* and boasting an all-star roster of comics icons such as **Bill Finger**, **Bob Kane**, **Dick Sprang**, **Sheldon Moldoff**, and **Win Mortimer**, *Batman in the Fifties* is a wild nostalgia trip that Bat-fans of all ages will enjoy. Grab your capes, cowls, and utility belts—adventure awaits!